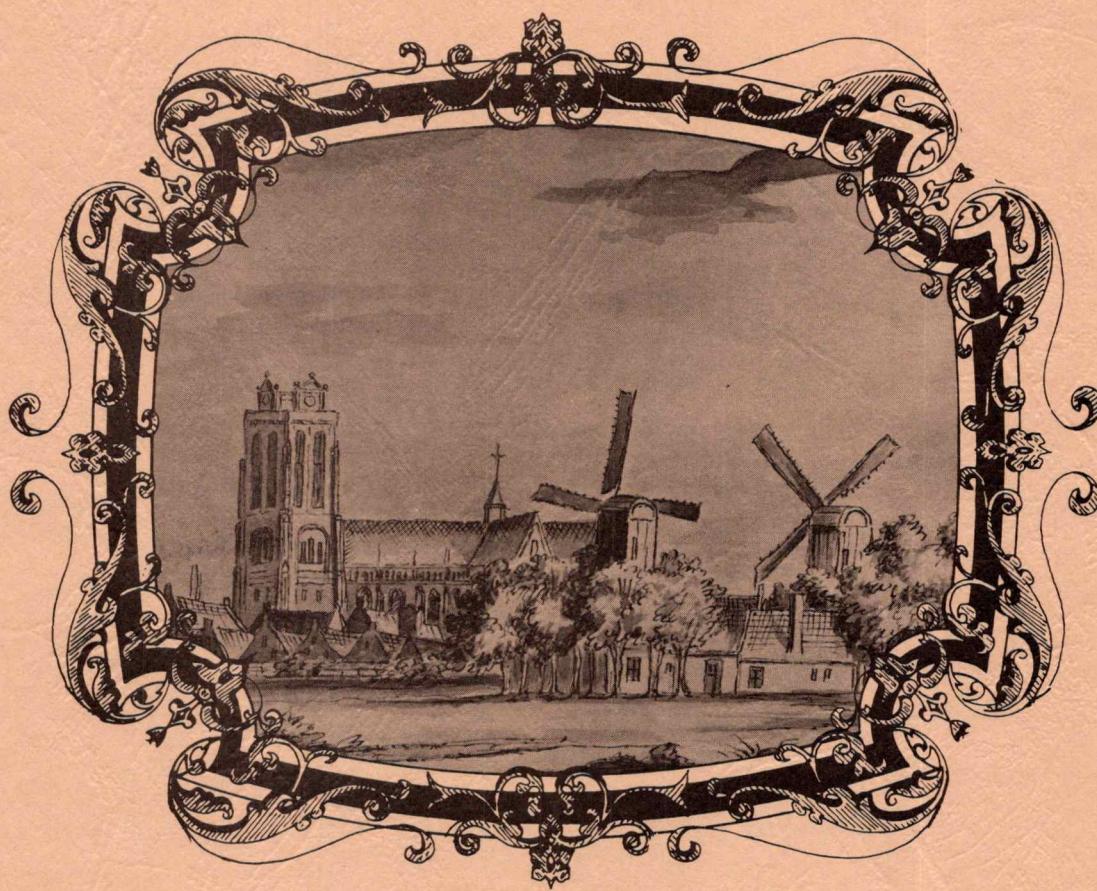
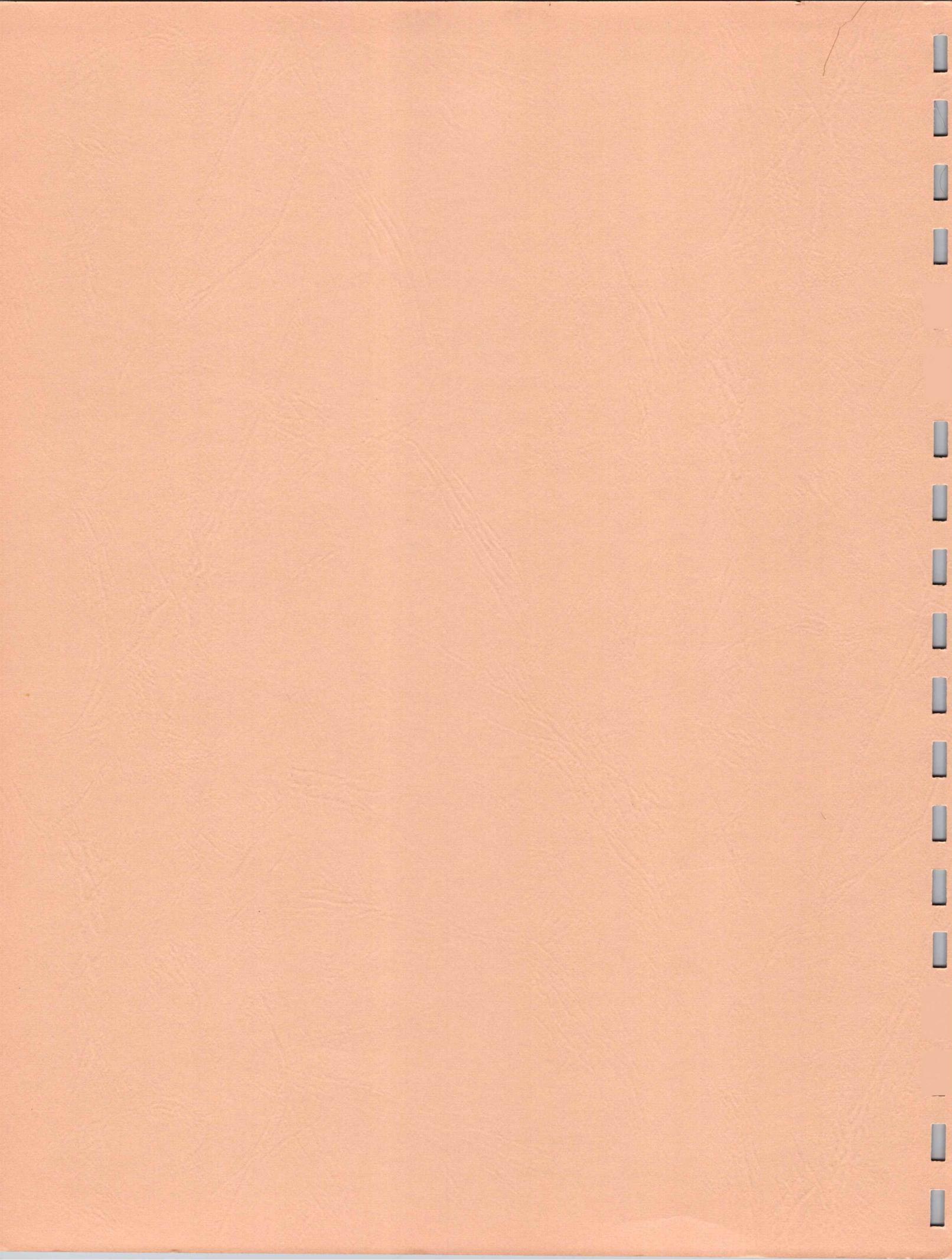


The Whole Dam Family



a family history of the Dahms and
Allied families

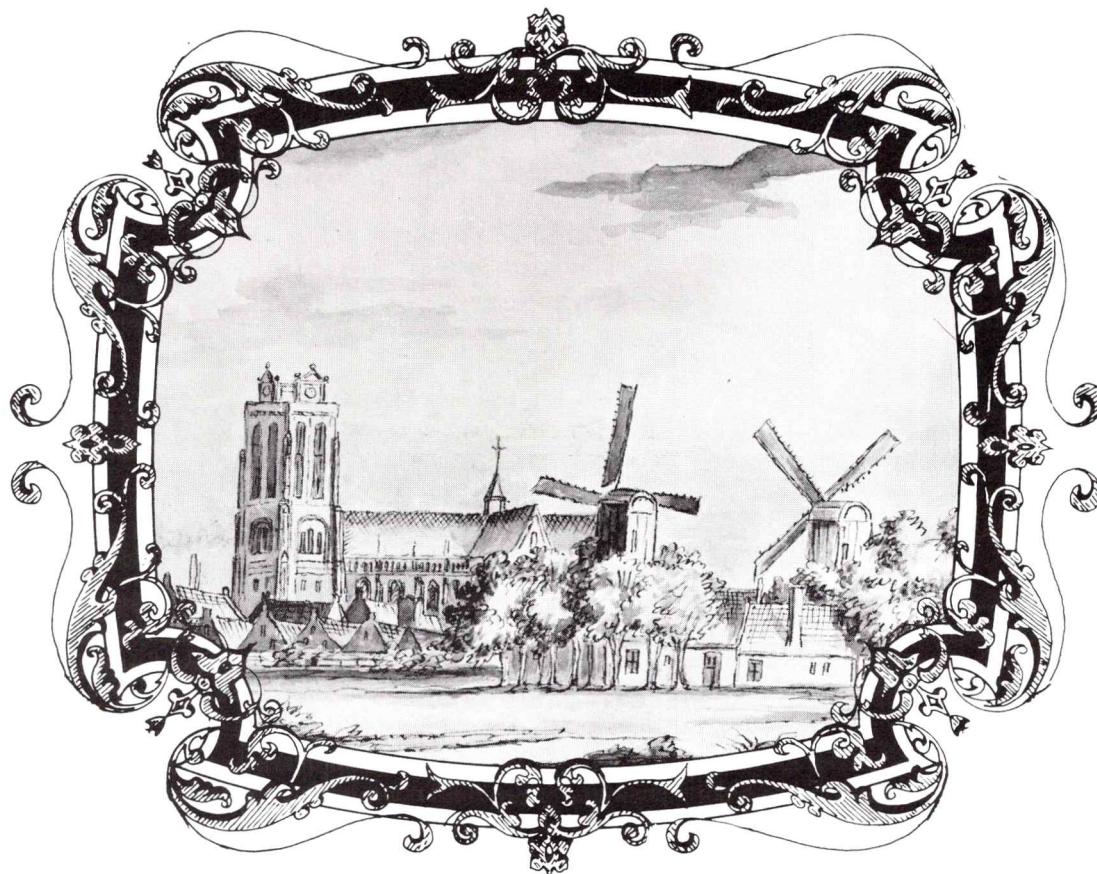


Dorothy
Van
Kooten

The Whole Dam Family

a family history of the Dahms and Allied families

Published in 1981



This sketch will give the reader an impression of the surroundings in which Hendrick Jan Dam lived and operated his grain mill. The mill he operated was named "de Backerinne" which stood on the Kleine Kalkstraat. This is in close proximity of the Spuipoort. It is very likely that one of the two mills in the sketch is "de Backerinne," the other being the "Buyserinne" from information given by the archives in Dordrecht. The famous church of Dordt is in the background.

Preface

Ten years have been spent in gathering information about our family. It is as complete as currently can be, especially for such a large family when periodically additional information and findings become evident.

This genealogy is written in a manner that the reader can have some background of our ancestry and their environments. The dates are believed to be correct but in many instances the baptismal date, which was a few days after birth is also recorded as the birth date. There was both a civil and church marriage, sometimes a few days apart, and either one of these dates is used. The death date and the burial date often a few days apart could be considered the date of death. Likewise reading the old manuscript one may misconstrue certain dates due to lack of clarity. This is the reason for certain discrepancies from various sources.

The short stories are facts as they were presented to us by manuscript or word of mouth by reliable personal interviews of senior people in Holland and the United States. Special thanks to Uncle John of Pella who with clear mind in his late 80s and 90 years, contributed such a wealth of information.

We have included as much of the family line as was available to date and is here recorded for those who now, or in years to come, wish to connect certain families of this pedigree.

You will note that the writer goes into detail in his family's direct line extensively as this is his primary interest. He also includes a bit of genealogy of his grandmother, which is not included in the earlier Groenenboom history.

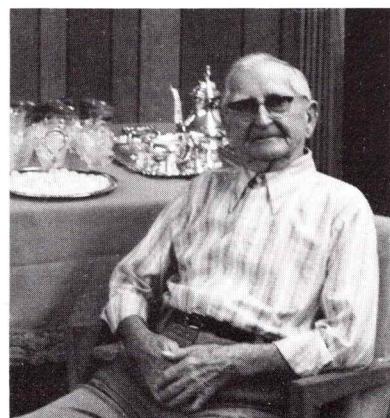
Likewise, some genealogy of the Goote and Camelot families is here recorded for the benefit of the John Dahm family. We express our gratitude to Sylvia Kempema for her many hours of research on this chapter.

Our search for a family crest was fruitless. We later learned that a family needs to have possession of land before they received a crest and our family owned grain mills, so no family crest is available.

It is the writer's hope and wish that some of you will keep up the genealogy here started for the benefit of our descendants.

We hereby express our thanks to our good friend and cousin, Jan Verhoeven, of Oud Beijerland for doing the background work for this genealogy. He spent months compiling data for our use and we will all appreciate his efforts in assisting us as we read this recorded history.

Also our sincere thanks to all those who assisted us in so many ways to make this work possible.

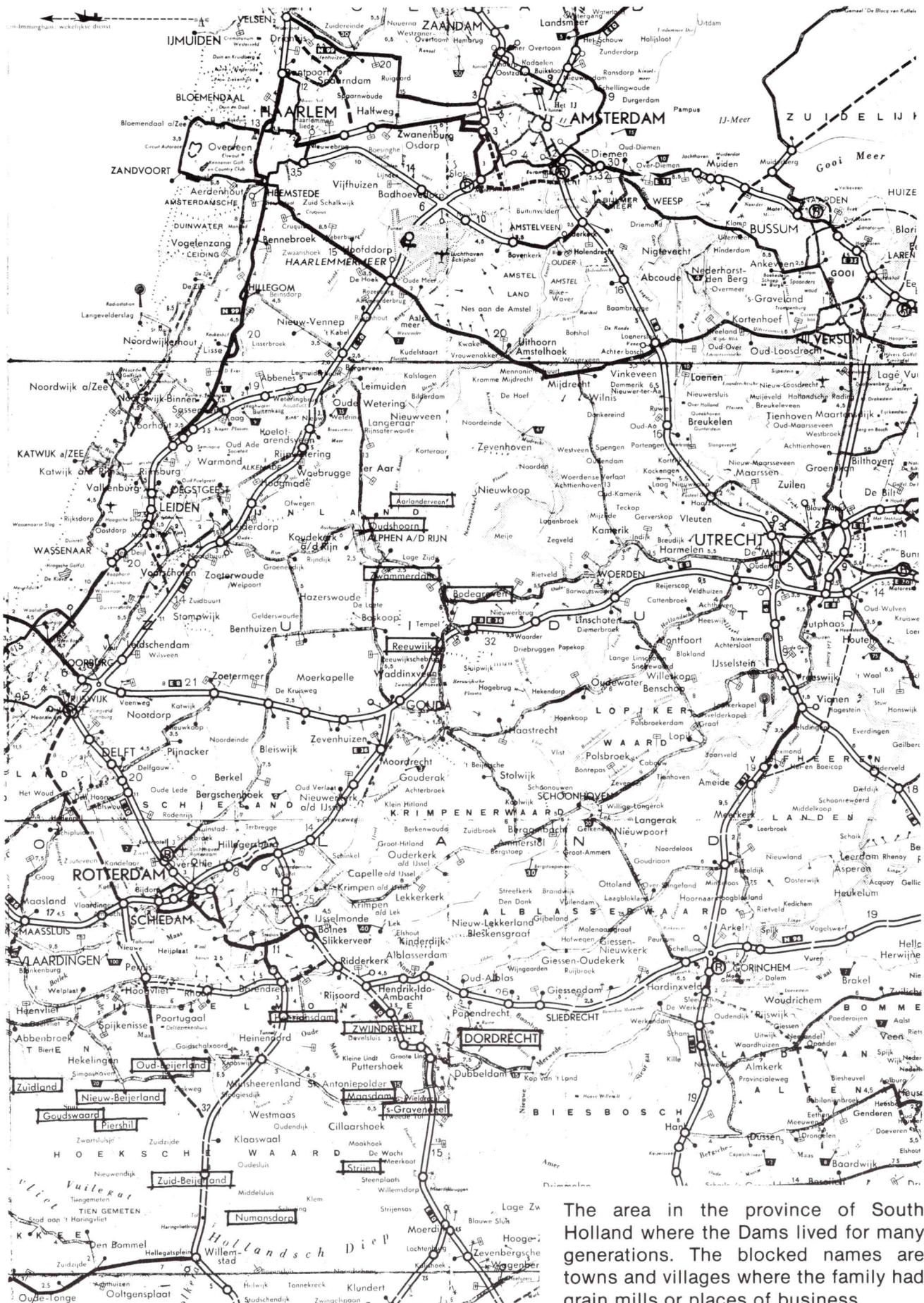


Uncle John on his 90th birthday

J. B. Dahm / June 1981

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The area in the province of South Holland where the Dams lived for many generations. The blocked names are towns and villages where the family had grain mills or places of business.

Chapter I

Original Heritage

"God created the world but the Dutch made Holland."

The old saying clearly states the ingenuity and ambitions of the Dutch people.

For a thousand years, the Dutch fought the sea waves and the river floods. They diked their land which is lower than the ocean and thus created a country. Holland is a country built like a ship in water with tight compartments. The dikes and dams are the partitions. While engaged in reclaiming the land, they were also rearing the bulwarks of freedom. They beat off the Spaniards, they built an empire, they settled in America and they helped make England and the United States free.

From Whence We Came

Of the people of this region of Europe before the Roman era we know as little as we do of the American Indian before the white man came. From Caesar and the Romans who occupied the Rhine delta in 21 B.C., we learn that the swampy lowlands of the south were mostly people of Celtic stock called Nerii and Meaapii. In the central portion were the Batavii and in the north the Friesians. Probably the most famous were the Batavians who originally came from the German forest to the East. This Germanic tribe were hunters and men of war and large in size. The Romans seemed like boys in comparison.

The Celts were more civilized and practiced agriculture, raising livestock and a few of the arts. They were fond of dress and jewelry but were not known as being virtuous or having good morals. The Friesians who had previously ousted the Celts and the Batavians were considered by Julius Caesar to be the toughest and most warlike of all barbarian peoples. These two wild tribes of Germanic origin inhabited the land when Caesar appeared. Roman history records great battles between the Batavians and the Romans in the fourth and fifth centuries. The Roman Legions withdrew from this swampy morass in 402 A.D. and retreated back to their own civilization. "Life without letter is death" and so is the historic page of the next few centuries.

Who We Are

During these early centuries, horde after horde of migrants poured into the Lowlands from the north and the east to overthrow the Roman people. These men of Teutonic origin loved battling with people and seas. They broke down the Roman world and many settled in England and mixed with the natives there. In a broad sense England was settled by Dutchmen.

During these times, the Celtic tribes remained in the south. In time, the Franks absorbed the Batavians and three centers of civilization developed. Friesian in the Northwest, Frankish in the South and Saxon in the North and East. From these three peoples, the Dutch are directly descended. So basically the Dutch are a Germanic race who have always been exposed to influences of neighboring countries.

What We Are Like

Those of true Friesian stock are tall and blond, a pure Germanic strain who consider themselves a race apart. The Batavians are also fair skinned, blue-eyed people who are well built and muscular, a characteristic to be seen all over Holland today. In the south, especially in Zeeland, which was longer under foreign domination, the Latin influence is more apparent in finer features and gentler manners of the people. Quite a number of Dutch people are proud to have Scottish blood in their veins, being descended from soldiers of various Scottish regiments stationed there during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

Language

The Holland language is basically Germanic with many Latin and French words but remarkably few Spanish considering the length of time they dominated the country. Thinking themselves to be a race apart, the Friesians have a language all their own which is taught in the Friesian schools. This language is the ancestor of the English speech. A Dutchman from Rotterdam cannot understand a great deal of what the Friesians say, but one who knows English can comprehend. A lowland Scot can easily communicate with the Friesian. The English language is also of Germanic background, thus many German and Holland and English words have the same meaning but pronounced differently. Examples are such words as butter, street, colony, port, wall, canal and a host of others. An exception would be the Van part of a family name. In Holland Van belongs to the people and anyone can use it. In Germany Von denotes nobility, title, privilege, monopoly or anything pretending to a flavor of importance.

How's the Weather

Holland enjoys a marine climate with moderate winters and cool summers. It is not every winter that people can ice skate, particularly in the southern part, nor does it warm itself in the summer that the American would say the beach is comfortable most of the time. Out of the 365 days a year, 200 of them have overcast skies or rain. Rainfall is never very heavy and averages between twenty-five to thirty-five inches per year.

Because the country is flat, there is a huge expanse of sky and the warm golden light at the end of a summer afternoon is very special. Small wonder that Holland has so many landscape painters.

Our Characteristics

The Dutch have many national characteristics as noted in the jingle, "The Amsterdam Dutch, the Rotterdam Dutch and the other damn Dutch." Lord Chesterfield made this pronouncement "The trouble with the Dutch is they offer too little and demand too much." The Hollanders themselves say they want a "ringside seat for a dime."

Moderation and respectability are keynotes to all aspects of Dutch life, a true eccentric is rare. Law and order are respected, flamboyancy frowned upon and temperaments kept well under control. Thus the Dutch have come to be termed dull and unimaginative, especially by their more volatile Latin friends who find them both incomprehensible and at times exasperating. A less spectacular characteristic is reliability, loyalty and being industrious, but their persistent curiosity and obsession with detail cannot be misconstrued.

Heredity and circumstance have made the Dutch stubborn fighters in defense of their land, their personal freedom and religious beliefs. By nature not an aggressive race, they do exercise loyalty of the highest order to their devoted cause. Life has forced them to become realists. They set great store by material possessions and learn to keep reserves to hedge for bad economic conditions. They are

savers rather than spenders. A fitting Dutch proverb spells this out beautifully. "Economy linked with industriousness will build houses like castles."

The Dutch have an unsophisticated and sometimes rather crude and guttural sense of humor. They lack the ability to laugh at themselves and are often surprisingly touchy. Sentimental rather than passionate, they bask in the glow of the family circle and are extremely shrewd in business. The Japanese say "where a Dutchman has passed even the grass does not grow anymore."

Interesting area characteristics place the Friesians as stubborn, the Rotterdammers the most hard working and the people of Brabant as easygoing. While Amsterdam is loved for its good humor, the city of Utrecht is greatly teased for its old fashioned formal manners; and those that live in The Hague, where government people have position rather than wealth, are regarded as stiff and snobbish. Hence the well-known tale of the family which kept a wooden ham hanging in the kitchen for show and the professor who regularly went shopping for vegetables, not with a shopping bag but an empty violin case. The Friesians today are still typical of the old stiff Dutch. Even though content, no one seems to be jovial or happy. A Friesian with a smile must be "sought after with a lantern." As one travels south, the populace mellows and gradually the people appear to be happier and jolly so that when one arrives in Brabant the people are very friendly, good humored and sociable. Whether this is caused by environment or the contrast between the stiff Calvinists in the north and the liberal Catholic in the south is not for us to judge but only observe.

Pass through a Dutch suburb at night and most of the modern bungalow type houses will have large picture windows filled with potted plants and no visible signs of curtains or drapes. This is a tradition carried on since the Spanish controlled Holland in 1600 when they were forbidden to have the windows covered so that the Spanish soldiers could more easily see if any undercover work was going on. The lights are on and all the life of the families can be studied. The Dutch are used to living close together by necessity and openly have nothing to hide. Even the tall seventeenth century houses of Amsterdam and other towns have well-placed mirrors outside the windows of upper floor apartments so that the passerby can see what goes on within and the inhabitants can see what is happening on the street.

Manners

In manners the Dutch are a strange mixture. Courteous in speech and inevitable handshakers on greeting and parting, they push and jostle each other in shops and streets without a word of apology.

At the table it is not the practice to pass the food around or for the host to offer it. The accepted table manners are for each one to reach or grab that which he wishes to have. Thus they all eat and stay healthy. They have great pleasure to visit and receive friends and relatives, always offering a cup of coffee or tea. Dialogue among themselves is a great Dutch pastime. There is an old Dutch saying, "Place two Dutchmen in a room and they will found a debating society, gather three Dutchmen together in a room and they will found a church or political party."

Religion

It was around the beginning of the ninth century (800 A.D.) that Karel De Groote (Charlemayne) ruled the area. He was a mighty warrior but also a great civilizer. It was during his dominion that it can be said that the Netherlands belonged to Christendom. For two centuries the Dutch were also heavily involved in the Crusades which in turn brought civilization to Holland in a larger degree. It was in the year 1477 that the Bible was translated into the language of the people.

In 1467, a boy was born in Rotterdam and his name was Erasmus. He was neither Catholic or Protestant but believed in reforming the church. It was Erasmus who forged weapons used by the Anabap-

tists, Luther, Calvin and others to start and continue the Reformation. The Netherlanders who first claimed the right of free reading and interpretation of the Bible demanded the separation of church and state. These were called the Anabaptists because they believed in the baptism of adults only and that usually by immersion. They were active before Luther nailed his thesis on the door in Whittenburg. The Anabaptists leavened the Netherlands with their doctrines and taught the common people before either the Lutherans or Calvinists were numerous, influential or respectable. They found toleration in Holland under William the Silent. Though some of the Dutch Anabaptists committed offensive actions, the overwhelming majority of them were quiet, peaceable, non-resistant folk. They were organized, educated and elevated by Menno Simons who renounced his Roman Catholic form of Christian faith and became an Anabaptist and also the father of the Mennonites.

Protestantism soon had a three-fold possession in the Netherlands. The Anabaptists who were numerous in Friesland were largely of the lower classes, while the Lutherans had wealth and influence, but more moderate. The Calvinists were democratic in tendency, stern, zealous, uncompromising and in the majority.

In the middle 1500s, a leader of German birth, named William of Orange, came into power and led the revolt against Spanish rule. He was a Catholic, not especially zealous or devout, but very charitable. He saw the futility of the religious squabbles and believed that Anabaptists and Roman Catholics, Lutherans and Calvinists were equally Christian and could live together and must do so. In 1573, he publicly worshipped in the Reformed Church and later became known as the Father of his country. On June 1648, after eighty years of war, the Spanish gave up and surrendered.

The Crusades

The Dutch were greatly involved in the Crusades during the years 1096-1292 whose purpose was for the Christians to wrest the holy sepulchre from the Mohammedans and other pagan nomadic tribes. It is undoubtedly true that the Crusades did more for the Netherlands than the Dutch did for the purpose of the Crusades. Thousands of ignorant, half-civilized Christians left their cold, wet homes in Holland and Friesland to have their eyes opened in the sunny Levant and the luxurious East. From their crude huts and rude life they came in contact with great cities, marble homes, elegant pavements, superb dresses and refined manners. They had never heard of underclothing, bathtubs, soap or spices. Soon they desired to become educated in the schools of Greek and Saracen civilizations. It was discovered that the morals of the Saracen (Moslems) were far superior to those who served red or white crosses on their shoulders. Thus the Crusaders prepared the way for Wycliffe, Erasmus and Luther. With new wants, enlarged minds and practical knowledge of the East, an active commerce sprang up. And so the embryo of the Dutch Empire was impregnated.

Health

In the Middle Ages the Plague and Black Death were a pestilence and killed more people than were destroyed by wars. With the usage of soap, they soon learned of its cleansing values. They applied soap and cleansing water for personal hygiene as well as cleanliness for the home and soon discovered this drove most forms of pestilence away. Still today, a national passion for the application of soap and water possesses them, and in the Hollander's eyes "laziness and dirt are the worst forms of original sin."

T.B. was a scourge in damp Holland. In 1900, there were 172 T.B. deaths per 100,000. Today there is only one. In order to counter the effects upon their bodies of the ever encroaching damp, they had to get used to a greasy diet. This fattened them quickly and subdued in them the kind of nervous energy which makes men dangerous as predators. There are few records of their ever marching out of the swamps to attack land of their neighbors, so different from the German, French, Spanish, Italians and British.

The Founding of Holland and Dordrecht

In the area known as the Merwede in the central part of the Netherlands where the Waal and Maas rivers meet and flow together, the land is low, marshy, swampy and known as a Hollow Land. This area was named Holland by Dierk III, Count of Friesland in 1015 and later the name was used synonymously with the Netherlands. This area being an important commercial water route already in these early years, Dierk III levied a heavy toll to all ships passing through Merwede. In or before 1064, the Count of Holland built a tower or crossing (tower ferry) which was then called Dordrecht, later shortened to Dort. This newly founded commercial city was the mint of Holland where money was coined for many centuries. Some of the founders of the best families in the State of New York came from Dordrecht, the center of Dutch feudalism.

The effects of the St. Elizabeth Flood on November 21, 1421 covered a vast expanse of Holland, approximately the whole of South Holland area to the West of Dordrecht. Whole villages were wiped out and ten percent of the total population were drowned during this disaster. It also left its toll in Dort.

Land Development

The Netherlands is small in area, being less than one-third the size of Iowa. For centuries three great rivers, the Rhine, the Muese, and the Scheldt deposited rich silt as they flowed to the sea. If only these areas could be elevated or dried up could the people utilize this productive soil.

Finally, after the Crusades, great changes came over the landscape of the Netherlands. In air, earth and water novelties struck the eye. Windmills came from the east and were built by the hundreds, and in time by the thousands, to harness the power of the wind around 1350. The innovative Dutch soon improved their newfound source of power by enlarging the arms and sails for still greater power. With their new source of energy, they pumped the shallow marshes dry and learned that underneath lay rich, productive soil. By the year 1600, this source of power was pressed into service extensively. They powered saw mills, ground wheat for flour, loaded and unloaded boats and thousands were used to pump the marshes dry and create polders for agriculture. Many windmill interiors were also utilized for human residency. The Hollanders also took interest in flowers and in 1453 introduced the tulip from the East and found it to have a congenial soil in their Lowland country.

The Dam Cities

In a water-logged country, a dam is the foundation and beginning of a city. Many of the Holland cities and villages suffix their name with dam. The villages are then built on the dam and named after the river suffixed by the dam. Examples: Maasdam is named after the Maas river. Schiedam after the river Schie, Amsterdam, the Amstel and Rotterdam the Rotte. In early days much flax was raised in this area and when the linen industry was flourishing, the stalks of flax were put into the river to deteriorate and rot. It is from this rotting flax that the Rotte River derived its name and thence the city Rotterdam. The dikes in the Rotterdam area date back to the year 1000 A.D.

How the Dutch Became English

During the Spanish war, severe fighting took place, and terrible tortures to many inhabitants led a great number of the best people of Southern and Belgic Netherlands to flee to England. It is said this number of refugees approached nearly one hundred thousand intelligent, industrious, Bible-reading people. Many changed their names to the English version of a literal translation such as Kuyper become Cooper, DeWitt changed to Dwight, Timmerman translated to Carpenter, the Smits to Smit and Groen became green.

Chapter II

The Windmills of Holland

Windmills have always played a great part in the life of the Netherlands and its inhabitants. While at first they served to grind grain and remove excess water from the low lying districts, it soon developed into Holland's most important source of energy. In the 17th century this power was used for countless industrial uses such as sawing lumber from logs imported from other countries, pressing oil from flaxseed grown in the newly formed polders and the manufacture of paper products.

Windmills are said to have existed in the Netherlands since the year 1200 when the returning Crusaders brought with them the innovation of wind power as a source of energy from the Eastern civilization. The first windmills were undoubtedly used to grind grain as this task had been done by hand power for centuries, yes even milleniums.

The early Indians pounded the grain between two stones. Samson ground grain in the Philistine prison and in Solomon's day some sort of mechanized process of grinding was being used when he says the "sound of the grinding was made low" and Jesus refers to the millstones, indicating a mechanical process of grinding.

Now the Hollanders with their newly found source of energy were starting to develop windpower. Already in 1299 the E.P.A. (Environmental Protection Agency) was performing civic legislation. It is recorded that in that year, the village council or mayor needed to grant a permit to construct and operate a windmill. The miller then had a monopoly for the area or district as these people then were compelled to have their grain made into meal at this location only. After the mill was constructed, the local authorities would control any and all construction of buildings or planting of trees in the path that might obstruct the flow of free air. This was essential for the constant flow of free wind for operation of a grain mill and continued in effect as long as the windmills were the source of energy for grinding grain. One windmill would provide the necessary power for the grinding of the needs of approximately two thousand people.

As the cities began to grow and enlarge through the decades and centuries, changes had to be made in the zoning laws. As the mills had been built on dikes and the outer ring of the cities and villages, the population explosion compelled the people to build around the controlled and prohibited air channel and problems developed.

As the need for greater air flow for the windmills became apparent and necessary, the way was cleared to build the "stellingmolen." These mills were constructed in similar manner as the original structure, only it was elevated four stories above the terrain. The four stories were used primarily as living quarters in the first two, and grain storage on the other two stories. As the height of the windmill reached over one hundred feet, it became necessary to build a permanent scaffold around the building on top of the fourth story which appeared to be a stage — hence the name Stellingmolen or Tower Mill. It was from this stage that the miller could then repair, operate and adjust the sails as if it were standing on the terrain itself. Grain was elevated to the top of the mill by a windpowered hoist for a gravity flow processing system. Many of the mills were now constructed out of brick for less maintenance and longer life. The Dutch had already learned the adage that, "Time is money and money is useful."

Surnaming After the Mills

As the windmill was the landmark in the village or city, the area was as well known by the name of the windmill as that of the village. People in the early years did not yet have surnames and consequently the miller was referred to as such or pertaining to his vocation. Currently there are in excess of 100,000 people living in Holland whose name is related to the milling profession such as Mulder, Muller, Molenaar, Molendyk, Vander Molen, Vander Meulen, Meulman, Mollenkamp, Utermolen and countless more.

The Process of Grinding

At first sight one can hardly imagine that the noiseless breeze passing so imperceptibly over the land can generate such power and such noise. The atmosphere created by the whirring and vibrating, the rumbling, the creaking and groaning of the timber is almost beyond comprehension. Actual grinding of the grain took place between two big millstones which were enclosed in a wooden casing. The lower stone "bedstone" was stationary and the upper "runner stone" revolved around it. This created the noise, the dust and the finished product.

Operation of the Windmills

Operation of the various industrial mills was headed by a master miller and a crew of four or five. Many of these mills operated twenty-four hours a day and six days a week. A staggered shift was used, each person working a 16-hour shift.

Already in the 1700s the industry was under government regulation and red tape. The master miller lived a very regulated life with great accountabilities and was responsible for the cleanliness and tidiness of the plant so that there were no cobwebs, spiderwebs, rodents or insects to be found or any indication thereof. Also he was to catch all moles and other small rodents that might bury themselves in the surrounding dikes. No fishing was permitted by any of the mill's personnel in any surrounding waters. This regulation was to keep them alert on their respective jobs at the mill as it was common for people to fish on the side and sell them for extra income. When the mill was out of operation, it was set in certain regulated positions.

Consumption of intoxicating beverages was strictly forbidden and if a miller was found inebriated inside or outside his establishment, he was fined six florens the first offense, twelve florens the second, and a forfeit of his miller's license the third time. The miller was not to sleep on the job, or trust the milling to his wife or small children if he wanted a break. While the mill was in operation, the door had to remain open for a free flow of clean air.

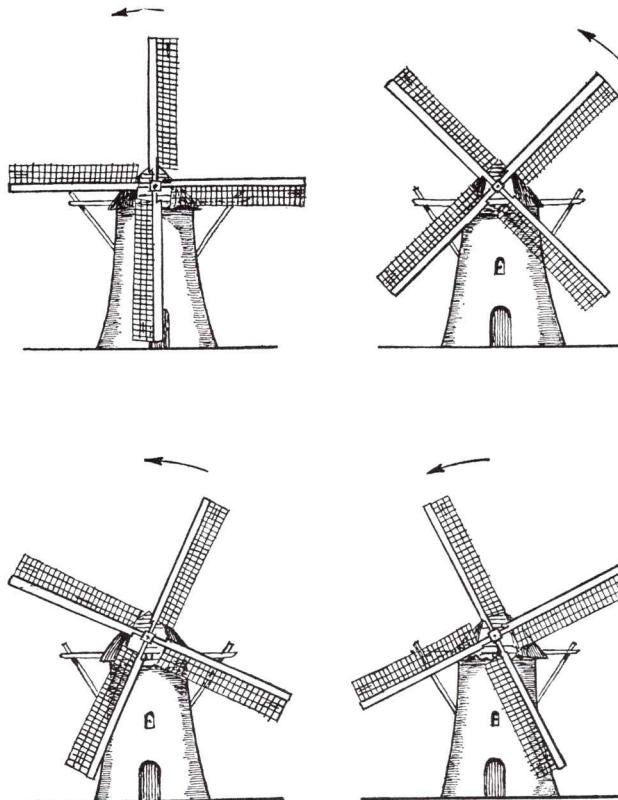
During the nighttime the breezes would blow light and steady and was the ideal time for the milling process. Occasionally the wind would die down and operations needed to be suspended. Everyone would retire and rest during this period. The master miller, who also would sleep, was anxious to use all available air currents. To assure himself of this, he would tie a rope from the sail to the blanket of his bed. If the air currents began to flow, the sail would pull the blanket from his bed, the miller would wake up, arose his crew and go back into production.

Traditions in Windmills

When we see the windmills in the landscape and the sails are not operating, we notice they are not all in the same position. There is a special significance and special meaning for the various positions. In this way the miller gives different kinds of information to indicate particular circumstances. Formerly the miller, like the burgomaster, the notary public and the schoolmaster, was an important figure in the rural community. Everything that went on in the village attracted the attention of the

miller who had plenty of opportunity to discuss all the news at length with his customers, who came to call for the meal and often had to wait for a period of time.

It was quite easy to read the code of the sails even at a great distance, because from the nature of things, the windmill was built on a dike or artificial mound and was clearly visible on the flat land. Basically, there were four characteristic positions of the setting of the sails. (See illustration)



Four characteristic positions of the sails

Above left: rest for a short time during working period. Above right: rest for a longer period. Below left: 'celebration' position, with the upper sail before the vertical. Below right: 'mourning' position, with the upper sail past the vertical (The sails turn counterclockwise)

The number of windmills peaked around 1850 when there were over 9000 operating mills in Holland. With the coming of steam power and later gas and diesel powered motors, their numbers have decreased to around 1000, of which a few are still operating as a novelty at a particular occasion. Some are being converted to dwellings and holiday homes and all are considered to be district landmarks.

Note: The foregoing comments about the Dutch windmills was based mainly on the grain mills as this vocation was that of our forefathers.

Stokhuyzen, Frederick - "The Dutch Windmill," New York, Universe Books, Inc. (1963)

Short Stories of Mills Where Descendants of Dam's were Millers

Heerjansdam

In 1738, the Kornmolen "Landzicht" was built by Arie Dam (1713-1794) when he was a young man of twenty-five years old. It was a wipmolen (a takeoff of a standard mill). It was constructed of wood and a family residence was built next to it on ground that was formerly a cemetery. Jacob (1743-1811), his son, followed Arie as miller when he left to operate a mill at Oudshoorn. In turn Arie's grandson Jan (1791-1879) followed his father as miller. His son, Christiaan (1825-1910), owner of mills in Gravendal and Maasdam, took his turn operating the "Landzicht" in his generation. Jan Grerit (1855-1939), a bachelor son was miller until he sold it to his nephew Cornelis Christaan (1882-1954). The Landzicht now having been in the Dam family for six full generations, was sold to J. H. Heijboer in 1927.

Strijen

The Korenmolen "De Vrede" was built in 1821 on a place where there was a mill in prior years. Jacobus Dam (1820-1876) became miller here sometime before 1850. His second son, Jan (1857-1928) followed him and then his grandson, Jacobus Aart (1890-1929). Following his death, the mill was set aside as inoperable and destroyed by the Germans in 1945.



"De Vrede" Strijen



"de Morgenster" Aarlanderveen

Aarlanderveen

"de Morgenster" was the mill here. It was an octagon shaped "grondzeiler" mill with the main sails low to the ground. Willem Dam (b 1776) was miller here from 1808 until 1823, when he left for Oudshoorn. His son, Arie followed him and was miller from 1823-1857. "de Morgenster" was then sold outside the family and was destroyed by fire in 1870. It was then rebuilt by parts of a mill from Utrecht and used until 1945. Until recently it lay in a desolate condition.

Mijnsheerenland (Moerkerten)

The grain mill ("Korenmolen") "de Goede Hoop" was a grondzeiler which is a mill built on ground level where the sails would come close to the ground. This was a round stone (brick) mill, but the year of its construction is not known. It is known that Arij Arijense Damme (1685-1740) lived in the mill in 1723. Evidently he purchased the mill, moved and lived here and operated it for a year. In 1724, a nephew, Arie Hendriks, over whom Arij Arijenes was custodian, operated the mill for a year or two. He was only a young man of eighteen at that time. When Arij Arijenes' oldest daughter, Anna, married a miller, Gysbert Batenburg, they moved to Mijnsheerenland and became millers on "de Goede Hoop".

Zwammerdam

Matthijs Dam, 1827, son of Arie Walingsz Dam, became miller on "de Arkduif" in 1855. This mill dates back to 1697 and was a stelingmolen. As far as is known only one generation of the Dam family was a miller on "de Arkduif".

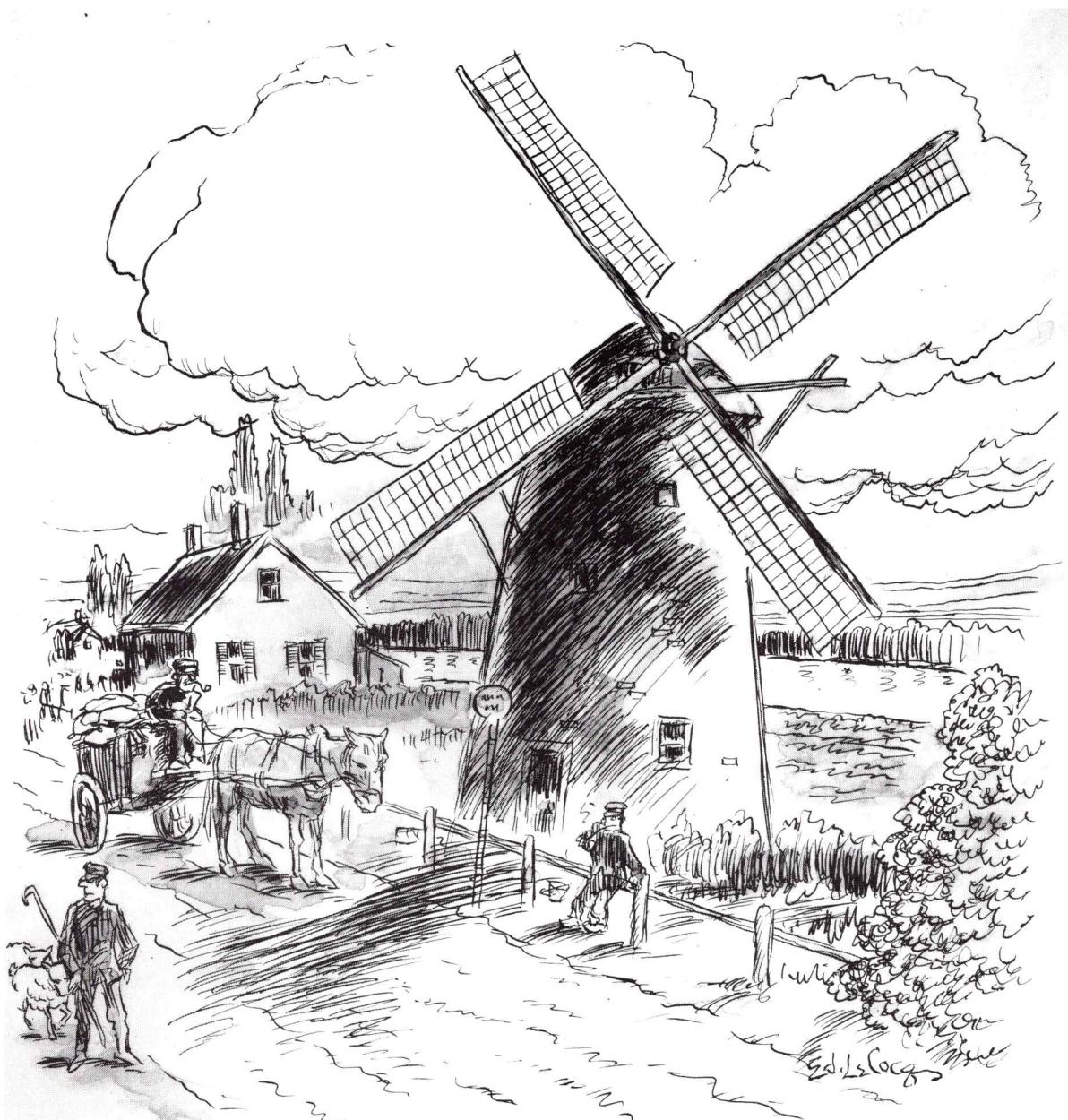
Gouwsluis

Millers on "de Eendracht" have been three generations of Dams. First was Arij Dam Walingsz (1795-1849) followed by his son Hermanus, born 1836 and Grandson Mattij's Willem born 1867. This mill stood on the west side of the Gouwe. The current Eendracht dates from 1898 and is an octagon stellingmolen, that was moved in from Zaandam. It dated from 1752 and was called "de Twee Gebroeders".

Numansdorp

Now follows the story of the mill at Numansdorp, the direct line of our family.

After the death of Arij Arijens Dam (1685-1740) in 1740 (other recordings read 1737), his wife Ariaantje Dirks van Rossum moved with her family to the Buijtesluis (Numansdorp) where she had bought the mill. Some of her older children were already established in business. Anna married to Gysbert Batenburg was miller in Mijnsheerensland. Arie, the elder, had built the mill Landzicht in Heerjansdam in 1738. Neeltje lived in Mijnsheerensland where her husband Joost Slagboom was baker. Son Pieter as a boy was operating the mill at 'sGraavensdeel, while son Johannes was miller in Piershil. (Note: From an old Dutch will it appears that Hendrik Dam was miller here in 1740). The name of the mill, if there was one, was not learned. It was a stone "grondzeiler" and was located on the Numanspoldersezeedijk. In 1745, the widow Dam built a new house next to the mill and stayed in charge of the mill until 1763 where she died the following year at the age of 75. It is known that her son Pieter was active in the business and also her son Dirk in 1753 before his marriage in 1755 to a girl



This style of round, brick windmill was commonly used in open areas or on the dike where the wind would easily operate it. For over a century operated by the Dam family.

from Zuidland, where he then located and became miller. Her youngest son Arij became master miller in 1763 and operated this until 1795 for a period of 32 years when his son Leendert followed him. Leendert served as miller following his father Arij and during the time Napoleon was in possession of Holland. During the period between 1809 and 1813, the French flag had been flying on the Dam mill. The French army was located to the South of the waterway "Het Hollandse Diepe" in the city of Willemstad. The natives were quite ready to declare their independence and Leendert took down the French flag and replaced it with the Holland flag. The Hoeksewaard since that time has been under Dutch rule. After Leendert's death in 1813 it is likely that his widow Hendriksje Kloppenburg carried on the family business with the aid of a young miller by name of Bastiaan Haupt. The young man in 1816 married Leendert's daughter Maria. Approximately the year 1820, son Arij became the miller in Numansdorp. He operated the mill until the 1830s (1830-1840) when he sold it to a distant cousin Arij Dam Jacobuszoon who had a mill in Heerjansdam. The reason the mill was sold is not known, but quite likely it had to be sold because of the problem Arie had with liquor.

Arij Dam, the new owner of the Numansdorp mill had his son Wiekert operate the mill, but he wanted to be a farmer and moved back to Heerjansdam. Wiekert's sister Maria's husband, Arie Maasdam, then became the miller at Numansdorp. No further information is available as to who followed Maasdam at the mill.

Oudshoorn

For many years, yes generations, the family of Vander Aar owned the mill "de Smalle Juffer" which stood on the "uiterste punt van de Sniep; Vroeger behoorde de Sniep by Aarlanderveen." When this mill was demolished in 1885 by the Oskam Bros., they found an inscription on the beard which read "A.D. 1767 N.L.V. (Neeltje Lelyveld)" indicating that she was the owner of or operator of the mill. It is quite possible that she inherited this mill from the Vander Aar's or purchased it from them. In any event Arij Dam (1740-1807) son of Arij Ariens Damme married Neeltje Lelieveld in 1764 and the "Smalle Juffer" came into the possession of the family Dam in 1767. As the son Arie was active politically in local politics, it is likely that his father Arij operated the mill for the son as he had previously moved to Oudshoorn. Arij's son Waling then was miller until 1807 when he left for Nieuwkoop to operate a farm.

Waling's brother Klaas followed him until 1823 when Klaas became ill and died in 1824. A third brother Willem then came from Aarlanderveen and operated here until 1849. Willem's son-in-law Adrianus vander Sluys Wildt who married his daughter Maartje followed him until his death in 1885. The mill was then sold to Oskam Bros., having been in the Dam family 118 years.



"de Smalle Juffer"

Oudshoorn

Chapter III

The Origin of Names

People from the beginning of time needed identification and were called by a name such as Abraham, David, John, Peter, etc. As population increased faster than new names, more personal identification became necessary. This was already happening at the time of the Apostles. Simon was surnamed Peter so we had Simon Peter. James and John, son of Zebedee were surnamed Boanerges, meaning Sons of Thunder, so we had James and John Boanerges. Matthew, the publican was so identified by his profession and Judas Iscariot from the village where he lived. Like other countries, the people of the Netherlands adopted names which fit each peculiar situation. Let's take the name of John whose father was Peter; he would identify himself as John (Peterzn) Peterson, saying he was the son of Peter. In the Scandinavian countries, this identification became the surname for numerous families such as Johns son, Jacks son, Toms son, Ericks son, Matts son and countless others. In Holland this changed and as Johns increased so did their identification. So we had four Johns with respective black, brown, red or white hair. Black-haired John became John De Zwarde (black), white-haired John became John De Wit (white), red-haired John was known as John de Rooi (red), and brown-haired John was identified as John De Bruin (brown). Then we also had John De Korte (short) or John De Lange (long) identified by size and John de Jonge (young) or John Den Ouden (oldest), known by their age and countless others from their occupation as John De Boer (farmer) or John van Dyk (from the dike). The frustrations of family surname identification can be noted in the following brief historical and biographical sketch of the Dahm family.

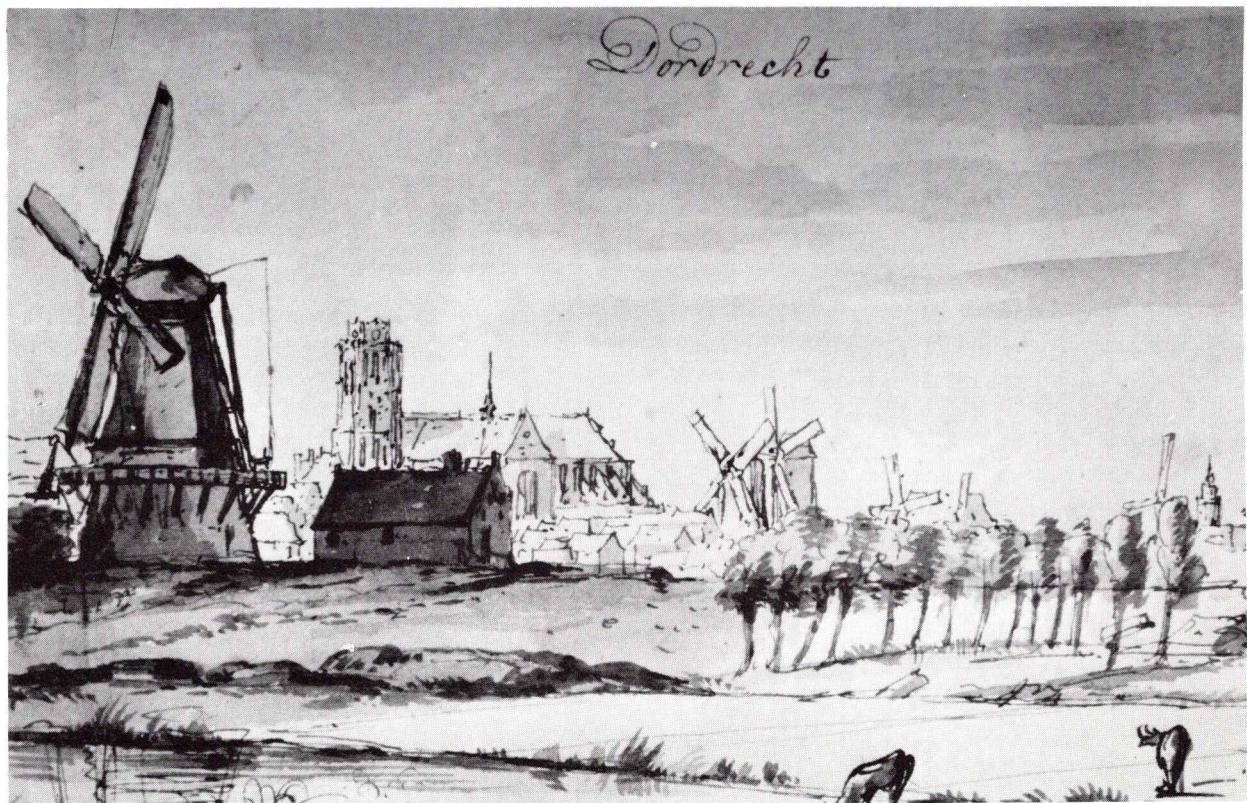
The distinguished names of Dahm, Dohm, Domas, Dumas, Dahms, Dames, Thoma, Thoman, Tamus, Thumm, etc. are some of the variants of Thomas as stated by a well-known authority on Teutonic surnames. These names can all be traced back to an early Jakob Ernst Tomas, a German landscaper painter born in 1588.

The differences in the spelling of the name should be ignored for two good reasons. In the first place, in the olden days, spelling was precarious. Men often spelled their own names with different spellings on different occasions or a clerk spelled the name as he heard it pronounced and particularly was this the case when the early Germans came to this country; for the English clerks, unable to speak their language, spelled their names, in many instances phonetically, a "d" and a "t" sounded to them very much alike. The other reason is that here in America the census records were printed about 150 years after they were written, so the paper and ink had faded, fine strokes of the pen had worn away as the pages rubbed against each other in use and the clerks, expert as they were in reading old documents, sometimes erred in interpreting the handwriting.

During the Spanish Inquisition, it became mandatory for all people to have a surname so they could be identified and taxed. Many adopted their identifying names and a few had them changed or modified. There were always a few rebels who then chose a ridiculous name such as Naagtgeboren (born naked) or Niemandsverdriet (nobody's misery), but by and large people accepted and lived with the government's mandate. The name Dam, Van Dam, Vander Dam, Dame, or Dahm can be found in many parts of the civilized world. In Bergen, Norway, there is a large hardware store bearing the name Dahm. Likewise in Germany there are countless Dahms, and the top French crystal manufactured pro-

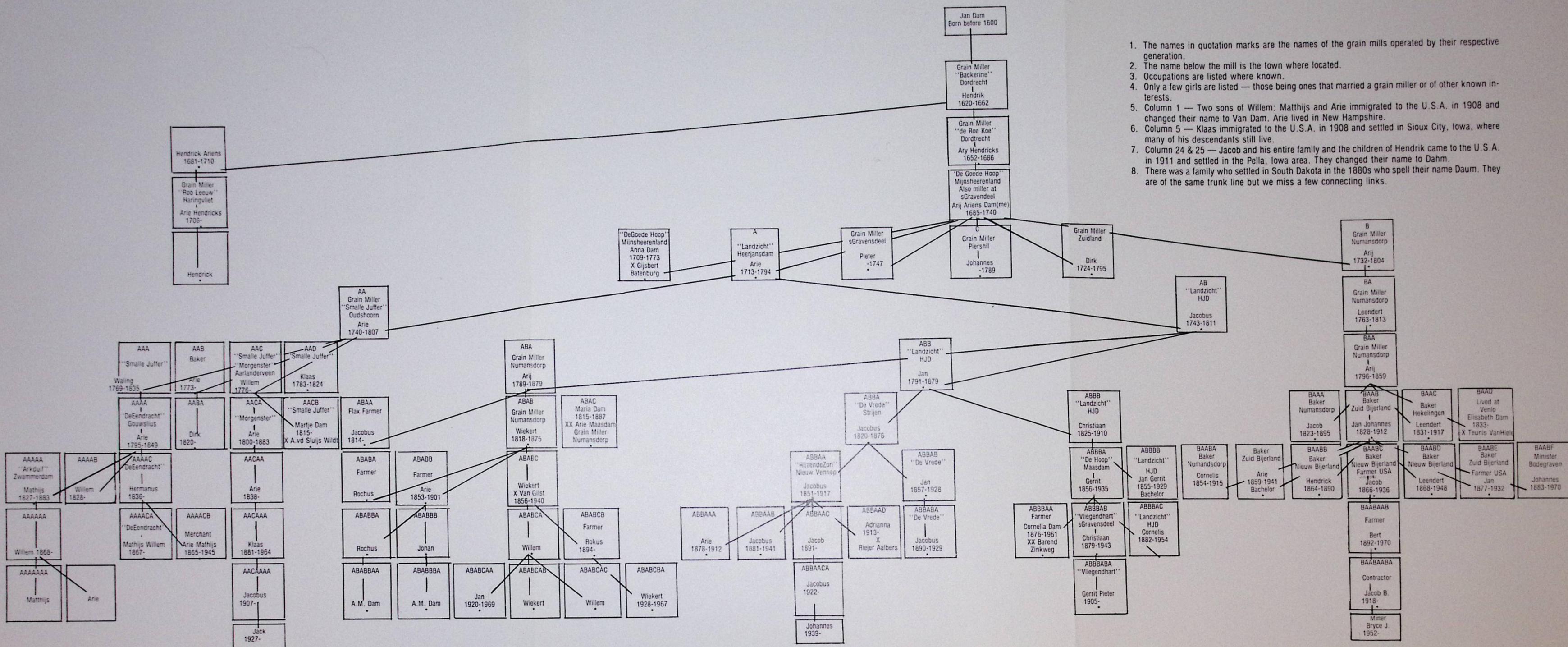
ducts are produced by Daum. There are many Friesians with the name of Dam or Van Dam whose families did settle in Michigan and Pella in their early settlements, but are in no way related to our family.

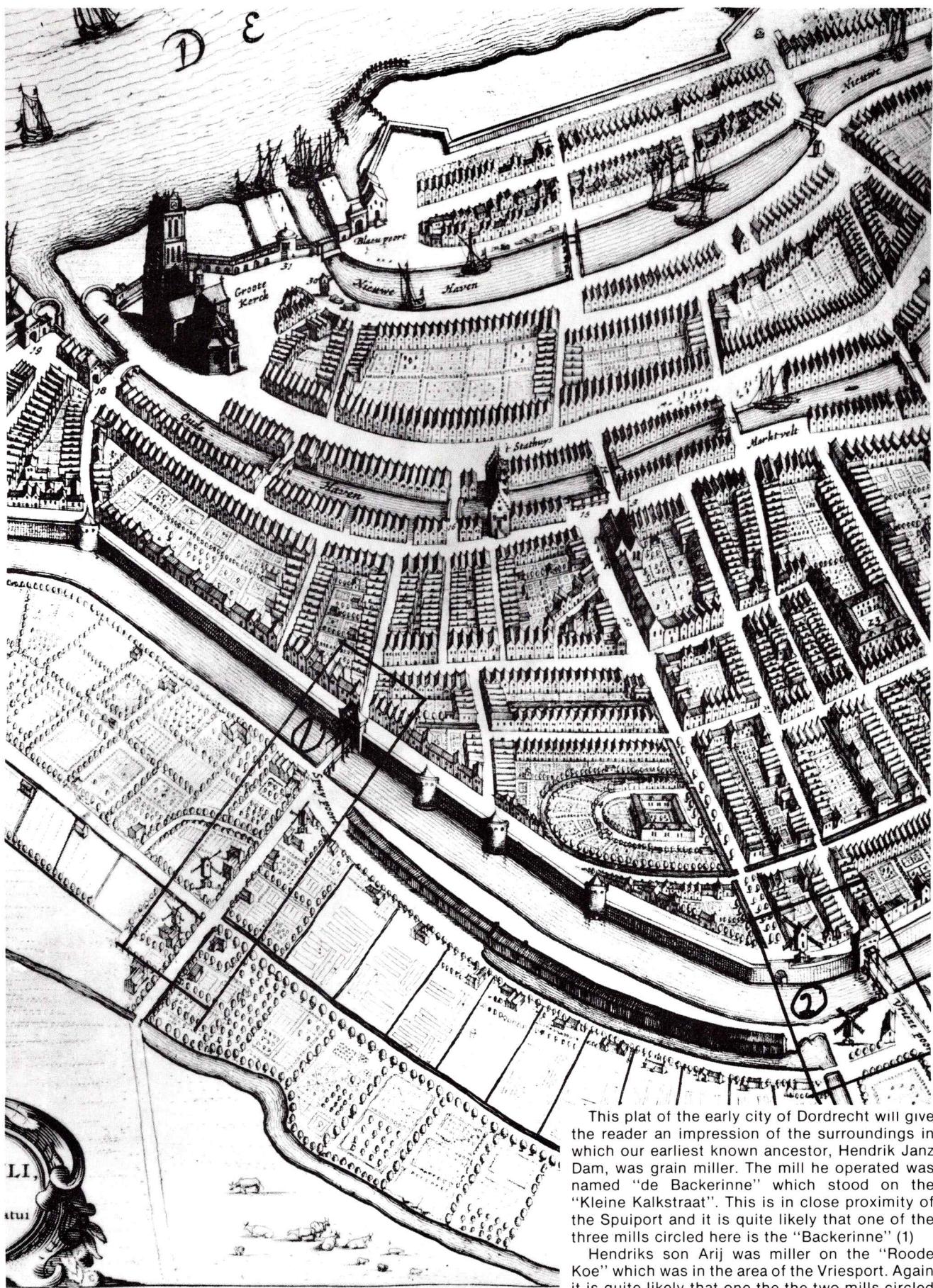
And so the search for the origin of the Dahm family as it concerns the writer continues. We started with the current known generations and worked back the direct blood line as far as information was available. Prior to the early 1600s, records were poorly kept, if at all, and not well preserved. The information concerning our family line then continues as it is found recorded and now written.



Windmill sketch of early Dordrecht

Dam Family Tree Outline





This plat of the early city of Dordrecht will give the reader an impression of the surroundings in which our earliest known ancestor, Hendrik Janz Dam, was grain miller. The mill he operated was named "de Backerinne" which stood on the "Kleine Kalkstraat". This is in close proximity of the Spuiport and it is quite likely that one of the three mills circled here is the "Backerinne" (1).

Hendrik's son Arij was miller on the "Roode Koe" which was in the area of the Vriesport. Again it is quite likely that one of the two mills circled here is the "Roode Koe". (2)

Chapter IV

Our Common Forbearers the First Five Generations

Generation I

The earliest known direct line ancestor we have is **Jan Dam** who was born in the late 1500s. It is very likely that this man came from a village a few miles west of Dordrecht, named Heerjansdam where a dam is built across a small stream. All indications are that this village Heerjansdam, was named after Jan Dam, which literally translated is "Gentleman Johns Dam." No other information is available except that he was the father of Hendrik Janszn Dam.

Generation II

Hendrik Jansz Dam

Hendrick was born about 1620 and became by vocation a "Coornmolenaar" — Grain Miller. Married at Dordrect about 1649 to Anneken Waterwijck, daughter of Adriaan Pietersz Waterwijck (alias Vechters), born about 1596, buried at Dordt Feb. 14, 1654, and Trijntje Vechters buried at Dordt April 9, 1666. Trijntje Vechters was the daughter of Jan Vechtersz who was engaged to be married to Nel Jansd Feb. 13, 1620 at Wormer. Note that the last two people did not have surnames, but only identified as Jan, the son of Vechter (fighter) and Nel Jan's daughter. This man Jan Vechtersz, grandfather of Mrs. Hendrik Dam, owned the windmill "de Backerinne" which was located just outside the Sluispoort (also recorded as Vuylpoort) on which was known as the Kleine Kalkstraat (see book "de Dordtse Molens" J.H.J. Willemse). The Backerinne was built about 1580 and dismantled in 1860.

Jan Vechterz was a man of prominence in the community evidenced by the fact that his son-in-law, Arijen Waterwyk, was better known as Arijen Vechters. When Trijntje Vechters married Arijen Waterwyk she had one-half interest in the Backerinne either by gift or inheritance. Her husband then bought the other one-half interest from his wife's brother. This then became the mill which was operated by Hendrik Dam who died as a relatively young man at the age of 42 on March 8, 1662. The mill was transferred to Annekens' sister Maritgen in Oct. 1667 who was married to Jan Karelszn Schabelie (Schabaillie). Why the mill was transferred back to the Vechters is not known as Hendrik himself had four children of whom Arij also became a miller. The Vechters family were Mennonites.

Hendrik Jansz Dam, born about 1620, died March 8, 1662 at Dordrecht. Married about 1649, Anneken Waterwijck born ?, died August 24, 1667.

1. Clara likely to have been born in Delft, married at Dubbeldam Nov. 14, 1666 to Arijen Arijenz Heijligenbirch, a miller at Dordrecht. It is recorded that she was living in Delft at the time.
2. Arij Hendriks Dam (III) born about 1652, died Oct. 1, 1686.
3. Pieter Dam Hzn born in Dordrecht was a "sledenaar" (freightcarrier), married April 20, 1687 to Lijsbeth vander Loo Louisdr. Pieter lived by the Spuijpoort and she just outside the Sluijspoort. They had seven children of whom there were a set of twins.
 - A. Hendrick born Dordt Aug. 13, 1687

- B. Louis born Dordt March 4, 1690
- C. Anna born Dordt March 4, 1690
- D. Annichien born Oct. 29, 1691
- E. Heijndrick born Sept. 24, 1696
- F. Heijndrick born May 9, 1699
- G. Louwijs born 17

4. Trijntgen Henricks van Dam

Generation III

Arij Hendriks Dam

Arij Hendriks Dam (**II**) was born in Dordrecht around the year 1652 and was a grain miller on the mill "de Roode Koe" (The Red Cow) which stood just inside the city wall of Dordrecht by the "Vriese Poort." There is no more information about this mill, nor can we find out why he did not follow in his father and mother's mill "de Bakerinne" which was nearby. On April 18, 1677, he married Neeltje Arijensd (den) Houting who came from Oud Beijerland and at the time of her marriage lived in Heinenoord. After a short marriage of only nine years, Arij died at an early age of 34 years on Oct. 1, 1686. They had five children. She later remarried to Arij Andriesse de Heer.

CHILDREN OF ARIJ HENDRIKS DAM AND NEELTJE DEN HOUTING

1. Anneken Ariens baptized April 4, 1678, died Dec. 5, 1685
2. Maeicke Arijensdr. baptized Aug. 31, 1679, died Jan. 16, 1680
3. Hendrik Arijens Dam born March 26, 1671 at Dordrecht, died around 1710 at Puttershoek.

Married June 28, 1705 at Puttershoek to Ammerentsie Aerts Verheul. They had two children who were left fatherless when Hendrick died at the young age of 29. The uncle of the two children who was a miller at 'sGravendeel, was to be their custodian and it is recorded that the following inheritance was dispersed to each of the children under his custodianship: From Grandmother Neeltje den Houtingh, widow of Arij Hendriks Dam, 100 guilders. This was a tidy sum in those early days. From their father Hendrik Dam, 12 guilders and 12 "stuiver". From an uncle in Oud Beijerland, 1 guilder and 16 "stuiver". The guilders known in those days as florens

were of much higher value than today's Dutch florens or guilders.

Remarried on Feb. 25, 1711 to Cornelis vander Vlies.

- A. Piaternella Hendriks born about 1706, died before 1742. Married at Westmaar April 20, 1727 to Dirk Jacobzn vander Waal.
- B. Arij Hendriks Dam baptized Jan. 19, 1706, married at Rotterdam on April 14, 1732 to Jacoba Verwoorn. In 1723 Arij was a helping hand on the mill in Strijen and became miller in Mijnsheerenland in 1724 and at 'sGravendeel in 1725 on the mill of his uncle Arij Ariens Dam. In 1732, he moved to Rotterdam where he was involved in politics for a short while. From official papers it states he was a buyer of fine wines and in 1736 purchased one-half interest of a grain mill "Rooleeuw" (Red Lion) standing on the end of the Haringvliet for 10,200 guilders. His wife died young, leaving two young motherless children. Hendrik and Odilia, aged two and three years. On April 17, 1736, he remarried to Geertruij Verkerk.
- 4. Marija Arijensdr Dam baptized March 30, 1683, died ?
Married a carpenter named Adriaan Hendriks van Moerkerken.
- 5. Arij Arijens Dam(me) (**IV**), Grain miller in 'sGravendeel, baptized Jan. 2, 1685, died Aug. 29, 1740. Married Ariaantje Dirks Van Rossum, baptized Oct. 16, 1689, died Nov. 22, 1764 at Numansdorp.

Generation IV

Arij Arijens Dam(me) 1685-1740

Miller at 'sGravendeel

Arij Arijens Dam(me), born Jan. 2, 1685 at Dordrecht, died Aug. 29, 1740 'sGravendeel. Married approx. 1708 to Ariaantje Dirks van Rossum, born Oct. 16, 1689, died Nov. 22, 1764 and buried in the Numansdorp church. Arij's father died when he was only one year old. His mother then remarried to Arij Andriesse de Heer who is believed to have come from 'sGravendeel.

In 1704 Arij was laborer on the mill in Oud Biejerland. It is quite evident that his wife was from 'sGravendeel which led Arij to settle here as a miller. It is thought from fragmentary records that he also owned the mill in Strijen and Mijnsheerenland. He had an orphan nephew who worked in these above named places. From 1723 to 1725 Arij lived in the mill at Moerkerten (Mijnsheerenland). In 1726, Arij's oldest daughter Anna took over the mill "de Goede Hoop" in Mijnsheerenland and married Gysbert Batenburg who was also a miller.

The prolific couple had at least 15 children (no twins) of whom three died young. Names were not so plentiful in those days that suited the entire family, so the eldest son who became a miller at Heerjansdam and later in Oudshoorn was named Arie, and the youngest who was born nineteen years later was also named Arij. Several more of the sons became millers, Pieter in 'sGravendeel and later Numansdorp, Johannes in Piershil, Dirk in Zuidland and the younger Arij in Numansdorp.

From a long legal document we learn that on August 11, 1736 two officials representing Lin-tien Bastiaans Bijl from Numansdorp met with Arij to contract for the purchase of the mill at Numansdorp. (The price was stated in old Flemish terms). Interest was charged at four percent and payable May 1, 1737 and May 1, 1738. Gysbert Batenburg, a son-in-law and Arij, the eldest son were to give themselves as security. On March 25, 1738, son Hendrik paid off the contract for his father.

This mill was constructed of stone in 1706 and stood on the Numanspolderse dike. In 1745, the widow built a new house by the mill and she remained chief miller until 1763, the year before she died.

In 1737, this couple made a joint will and testament which in abbreviated form follows:

Today on the 7th of March 1737, appeared before us the officials of 'sGravendeel Arij Arienszn Dam, miller of this town and his wife Ariaantje Dirksz van Rossum, to make the last will and testament of their earthly possessions. The declared upon his death was to receive the remainder and vice versa of

both their possessions, real and personal. They promised the children, both alive and to be born, to be honestly provided for and pay for schooling and learn a vocation or profession to which they were capable until they were considered adults. (This was considered to be when marriage took place or age 23 in those days.) When of age they were to be given a silver coin (ducaton) instead of the minimum provided by law. To provide properly for the children, the longest living was to be trustee and then Arij Ariensz Dam, miller at Heerjansdam and Gysbert Batenburg, miller at Mijnsheerenland (van Moerkerten) son and son-in-law of the testators, were to follow as trustees. The appointed trustees were directed to appoint additional trustees for the children if necessary.

Note: They appeared before the local authorities who recorded their wishes as presented and no signatures of Arij or his wife were required.

CHILDREN OF ARIJ ARIJENS DAM(ME) (IV) 1985-1740 — Married Arianentje Dirks van Rossum, baptized October 16, 1689.

There were 15 known children born to this marriage of whom four died in infancy. The father had impressed on their youth the importance of honor and respectability of serving the public as evidenced by five of the sons and one son-in-law becoming "molenaars." Following is the available information of the family.

1. Anna born 'sGravendeel approx. 1709, died July 16, 1773 at Mijnsheerenland. Married Aug. 17, 1727 Gysbert Batenburg, molenaar (miller), baptized Mijnsheerenland Aug. 3, 1704, son of Hendrik Cornelis B. and Anntje Thimotheusse Boer.
After their marriage (the record states before 1726) they became millers at "de Goede Hoop" where her father had been miller and evidently owned at one time.
2. Arie (V-A) born 'sGravendeel Feb. 18, 1713, died May 26, 1794 at Oudshoorn. Married Nov. 5, 1734 at Heerjansdam Grietje Klippanus (Clypanus), baptized Sept. 29, 1709, daughter of Jacobus K. and

Ariaantje Vaandrager.

As an ambitious young man, Arie at the young age of 25 built the "molen" (mill) at Heerjansdam and named it "Landzicht" which stayed in the direct family line for six generations when it was sold in 1927 to J.H. Heijboer. In 1767, Arie moved to Oudshoorn, where his son Arie had married Neeltje Lelieveld in 1764 and purchased "de Smalle Juffer." He undoubtedly continued to operate the mill with his son Arie as he was active in politics and civic affairs.

3. Dirck, died 'sGravendeel August 30, 1720.
4. Neeltje born confession 1744 Mijnsheerenland, died March 17, 1759 Mijnsheerenland. Married August 25, 1743 to Joost Jansz Slagtboom at Piershil.
They lived in Mijnsheerenland where he was a baker. She died young. Shortly before or after her death Joost disappeared from the scene leaving six minor children of whom the youngest was not yet six years old. "en met schuldbelaste boedel" (with a debt burdened estate). Ary de Coningh was appointed trustee of the estate Jan. 5, 1763.
5. Pieter, died 1747 in Numansdorp. Married Nov. 11, 1740 at Zuidland to Aagje Klinkers (widow of Cornelis van Hulst)

Pieter was miller in 'sGravendeel, very likely working in his father's establishment. Later he was miller at Numansdorp.

6. Hendrik. Nothing is known of him except that he was born and made confession in Numansdorp in 1747.

Johannes Ariens Dam (**V-C**), born approximately 1720, died July 14, 1789. Married Nov. 24, 1743 to Elisabeth Bastiaans Moerkerken, died Piershil, Nov. 23, 1799. They had five children:

1. Arie born Dec. 26, 1744, died between 1803 and 1816. Married Cornelia Verheij. Inherited from his mother in 1801 an orchard in Oud-Pershel. He had children.
2. Bastiaan born March 16, 1749, died September 19, 1749.

3. Soetje born Jan. 21, 1753, died September 10, 1754.

4. Bastiaan born Feb. 16, 1755, died before 1831, very likely no children. Married Lena Van Schelven, died August 31, 183 .
5. Dirk born April 16, 1758, died September 19, 1758.

7. Johannes born died July 14, 1789. Confession at Piershil 1745. Married Nov. 24, 1743 to Elizabeth Bastiaan Moerkerken at Piershil, died Nov. 23, 1799.

Johannes was miller in Piershil and served as alderman for 25 years from 1763 to 1788.

8. Marijchie, baptized Oct. 10, 1723 at Mijnsheerenland and confession in Numansdorp 1748. Married Feb. 21, 1750 to Hendrik Beljert, baptized Nov. 11, 1725 at MHL.

9. Dirk born 1724, died Jan. 25, 1795 in Zuidland. Married Oct. 19, 1755 Kaatje Degens, died Zuidland Aug. 2, 1803. Dirk was miller at Zuidland. They had one child, Adriana, baptized Jan. 1, 1756 at Numansdorp.

10. Ariaantje, born 1729, died 1774. Confession Numansdorp March 27, 1749. Married Nov. 28, 1752 to Schalk vander Hoek, born Feb. 2, 1730 at Puttershoek. He was widower of Hadewijn Mallegrom.

11. Stijntje, confession Numansdorp 1749. Married Aug. 12, 1753 at Numansdorp to Dammes van Rossum of Zuidland and moved to Poortvliet.

12. Arij (**V-B**) born 'sGravendeel 1731 or after, died August 24, 1804 at Numansdorp. Married May 20, 1759, Maria Visser, baptized Numansdorp August 7, 1734, died Feb. 19, 1773, daughter of Leendert Gerritsz Visser and Ariaantje Laurenszd Boender. Married Sept. 29, 1776, Johanna Franken, died Feb. 20, 1779.

Arij was the "meester Molenaar" (Master miller) at Numansdorp.

Recorded are also three other children buried at 'sGravendeel Feb. 16, 1717, May 7, 1725 and Oct. 9, 1728.

Chapter V

The Decendents of Arie Dam

1713-1794

Chapter five is rather lengthy and divided into two parts. Part I is devoted to the family of Arij who settled at Oudshoorn and the second part records that of brother Jacobus who stayed in the homeland with his descendants. For the greater part, both families were grain millers and expanded their trade in the area where they lived. These families for the most part remained in Holland and where it is known of any emigration, it is so recorded.

The writer records these facts so that any future genealogical buff can tie down his roots with greater ease. This we experienced when we met a family in Sioux City whose parents came there in early 1900. Another branch lives in South Dakota, but for lack of time, this missing link has not yet been found. This is also the case of the Van Dam family in the eastern states which is genealogically tied in, but no communication has been made to date.

Part 1

Arie of Oudshoorn

CHILDREN OF ARIE DAM ARIJSZ

1713-1794, Nov. 5, 1734 married Grietje Klippanus, born Sept. 29, 1709. They had six children.

Arie Dam (V-A)(1713-1794) was the oldest child of a very large family. He built the grain mill "Landzicht" at Heerjansdam which he operated until he moved to Oudshoorn. Many letters now over two centuries old have been saved and most of this is recorded in the book being written by Rijer Albers about this family. Arie owned much property in the area and was a very wealthy man.

In his early 50s, he writes of prolonged intense pain on his right side under his ribs. He went to the University of Leiden to see what relief could be prescribed by the professors. They prescribed a plaster to be laid on his aching body and then drink a bottle of brandy. Several years later he again went for relief.

This time the professor of the university prescribed eating a Surinam fig soaked in brandy for 24 hours. It is now known that he suffered from gallstones. He died at the advanced age of 81.

1. Arie born August 21, 1735 Heerjansdam, died young
2. Ariaantje, born December 5, 1736
3. Arie, born October 23, 1740 at Heerjansdam, died December 27, 1807, Oudshoorn. Married July 24, 1764 at Oudshoorn to Neeltje Lelieveld (Lelyveld). Baptized July 10, 1740, died February 9, 1822, daughter of Waling Willemsz Lelyveld, shipbuilder, at Oudshoorn and Marijtje Klaasd Poldervaart.

Arie was miller on "de Smalle Juffer." This mill had been in the Vande Aar family for generations. In 1767, it came into the Dam family either by purchase or inheritance. It is very likely that Arie's wife was related to the Vander Aars and inherited the mill as evidenced by the reconstruction of the mill in 1885. On the "beard" of the mill was found the inscrip-

tion 1767 N.L.V. (Neeltje Lelieveld) indicating that she was then the owner or driving force of the "Smalle Juffer." Arie was very active in politics and civic affairs. Beside being a miller, he served as poldermaster, alderman, farm manager, and "armmeester in hoogheemraad." It is quite probable that his father was active in the mill with his son.

4. Jacobus (**VI-AB**) born November 17, 1743, died 1811 at Heerjansdam. Married June 8, 1766 at MHL to Lyntje Niemantsverdriet, born October 26, 1740 at Klaaswal, died Heerjansdam June 24, 1769.

Married June 9, 1771 at Heerjansdam to Johanna Hordyk, born Heerjansdam, died May 31, 1782.

Married April 24, 1785 at Heerjansdam to Lyntje de Haan of Heerjansdam, born January 14, 1753, died August 27, 1823.

5. Leendert, baptized Heerenjansdam March 22, 1744 and Pietertje, baptized Heerenjansdam March 22, 1744. Nothing more is known of this set of twins.

Arie Dam Ariesz (**VI-AA**) 1740-1807. Married Neeltje Lelieveld Walingsd 1740-1822. There were eight children in this family of whom two died young and three sons followed the family tradition and became millers.

1. Grietje born Oudshoorn, married August 19, 1788 to Cornelis van Rhijn, born 1766, died September 19, 1816. He was a maker of tile.
2. Waling born July 2, 1769 in Oudshoorn, died January 19, 1835 in Nieuwkoop. Married November 17, 1793 Alphen a/d Rijn Elizabeth van Zwieten born 1769, died June 27, 1797.

Married March 11, 1800 to Alida Kooij, born at Nieuwkoop. Waling operated the "Smalle Juffer" as miller until 1807. He then moved to his wife's home town of Nieuwkoop a few miles to the northeast and was engaged in farming, then entered politics and became alderman. Very likely his wife was connected with farming. Klaas, his brother, took over the "Smalle Juffer" at this time.

3. Marijtje born October 13, 1771 Oudshoorn, married June 14, 1793 to Dirk

Van Geen of Boskoop. Married April 11, 1803 to Han Outman of Oudshoorn.

4. Arie (**VII-AAB**) born September 12, 1773. Married April 28, 1799 to Grietje Hoogervorst, born at Alphen a/d Rijn. Arie was a baker at Molennarsburg.
5. Willem (**VII-AAC**) born September 1, 1776 at Oudshoorn. Married October 13, 1799 to Magdalena Oosthoek, born 1777 at Boskoop, died January 22, 1825 at Aarlanderveen.

Willem was miller "op de Morgenster" at Aarlanderveen from 1808 to 1823. He started in 1799 as "helper." From 1823 to 1849 he was miller on "de Smalle Juffer" in Oudshoorn, after the illness and death of his brother, Klaas, in 1824. In 1854 he moved back to Aarlanderveen where he retired. He was then 78 years old.

6. Klaas born February 7, 1779, died August 30, 1779.
7. Ariaanje born January 7, 1781, died February 4, 1784.
8. Klaas (**VII-AAD**) born April 1773, died July 24, 1824 at Oudshoorn. Married 1812 Langeraar to Jacoba Maria vanden Steen. Died Koudekerk a/d Rijn July 10, 1869, daughter of Petrus Francois vanden Steen, born in Amsterdam and miller at Langeraar. Died Oudshoorn October 21, 1859 and Marijtje van Leeuwen Leendertsd, baptized Aarlanderveen September 16, 1764. Klaas was miller on "de Smalle Juffer" after his brother Waling remarried and became a farmer in Nieuwkoop. He operated the mill until shortly before his death when his brother Willem came from Aarlanderveen to keep the family tradition alive in Oudshoorn.

Note: There is evidence that Arie Dam had another daughter or a sister who was married to Cornelius Vermeer. Cornelius Vermeer sailed for the East Indies in 1779. They had one child Arij who died in Oudshoorn October 28, 1773.

CHILDREN OF WALING DAM (VII AAA)
(1769-1835) Married Elisabeth van Zwieten, died 1797. They had two children.

1. Arie (**VIII AAAA**) born Feb. 16, 1795 at Oudshoorn, died 1849. Was grain miller on "de Eendracht" at Gouwsluis (Alphen on the Rijn). Married October 14, 1821 to Geertje Kloot.
2. Willem born March 5, 1797, died July 11, 1797.

Remarried to Alida Kooy, born March 11, 1800, died June 23, 1849. They had six children:

3. Janna died October 6, 1800 at Oudshoorn.
4. Janna died October 14, 1802 at Oudshoorn.
5. Pieter died July 11, 1803.
6. Klaas born Feb. 5, 1806.
7. Jan born March 26, 1811, died 1811.
8. Jan born Aug. 8, 1815, died 1815.

Arij Dam (**VIII AAAA**) born Feb. 16, 1795 died 1849. Married October 28, 1821 to Geertje Kloot.

He was a baker and later grain miller at Gouwsluis (Alphen on the Rijn). They had 11 children.

1. Elizabeth born July 29, 1822.
2. Matthijs born Dec. 28, 1823 died Feb. 9, 1824.
3. Matthijs born Dec. 26, 1824 died March 21, 1825.
4. Marijtje born Feb. 18, 1826 died March 14, 1826.
5. Matthijs (**IX AAAAA**) born Feb. 20, 1827 died Feb. 11, 1883.
6. Marijtje born August 13, 1828, died Sept. 28, 1832.
7. Willem (**IX AAAAB**) born August 13, 1828 (twin). Married Geertrui Boerveldt.
8. Jannetje born Jan. 30, 1831
9. Marijtje born August 31, 1833
10. Hermanus (**IX AAAAC**) born April 2, 1836
11. Neeltje born Sept. 28, 1840.

Matthijs (**IX AAAAA**) born Feb. 20, 1827, died Feb. 11, 1883. Married Lena Elisabeth Womerstet, died April 26, 1854.

He was a grain miller in 1855 at "de Arkduif" at Zwammerdam. They had four children:

1. Geertje Marijtje born April 20, 1849 died young.
2. Arida born June 3, 1850. Married Jan Krygman May 20, 1875.
3. Marijtje born March 27, 1852. Married Maarten Overvliet May 28, 1881.

4. Grietje Helena Elisabeth born April 22, 1854. Married Arie Goebel Oct. 28, 1880.

Matthijs Dam remarried Dec. 29, 1856 to Jaapje Zwijenborg. They had nine children:

5. Martijntje born 1857, died 1858.
6. Geertje Martijntje born Feb. 2, 1859. Married Hugo Langelaan 1879.
7. Arie Dam born 1863, died 1872.
8. Willem Leendert (**X AAAAAA**) born July 5, 1868.
9. Jan Johannes born 1870, died 1872.
10. Hendrica Johanna born March 27, 1873.
11. Helena Maria born Jan. 2, 1876.
12. Jansje born May 29, 1879, died 1880.
13. Arie born October 3, 1881. Emigrated to Australia. He had no children.

Willem Leendert Dam (**X AAAAAA**) born July 5, 1868. He was a grain miller. Married in 1890 to Vrouwte Abbekerk. Their children were:

1. Matthijs Jan Dam, born Feb. 19, 1891 at Zwammerdam.
2. Pietertje Jaapje Dam born and died 1893.
3. Willem Dam born 1894, died 1902.
4. Jacob Pieter Dam born May 3, 1896 at Zwammerdam, died April 23, 1968.
5. Jan Mattijs Dam, born 1898, died 1918.
6. Petronella Jacoba Dam, born July 4, 1900. Married to Gerrit Postma.
7. Arie Dam born Jan. 3, 1902
8. Jacoba Petronella Dam, born and died 1903
1. Matthijs Jan Dam born Feb. 19, 1891. He emigrated in 1909 to the U.S.A. An American citizen, his name is Van Dam. Further information is wanting.
4. Jacob Pieter Dam, born May 3, 1896. He married Clara Sprey, died April 23, 1968. Their children were:
 1. Jan Matthijs Dam, born Nov. 27, 1922.
 2. Jan Jacobus Dam born June 17, 1924.
 3. Jacob Pieter Dam born Dec. 1, 1933.
7. Arie Dam, born Jan. 3, 1902. He emigrated to the U.S.A. He married Blanche de Marchant. An American citizen, his name is Van Dam. Died May 10, 1976. Their children were:
 1. Freddy van Dam married to Helen Johnson.
 2. Mattijs van Dam
 3. Marchie van Dam married to Donald Piauwe.

Willem Leendert Dam's first marriage ended in divorce in 1904 or 1905. Remarried Elisabeth Knaap. Their son was:

1. Willem Dam (**XIAAAAAAA**) who emigrated to the U.S.A. (R.F.D. 1, Ashland, New Hampshire 03217) Married Sady le Grow.

Willem Dam (**IXAAAAB**) born August 13, 1828. Married Geertrui Boerveldt. They had two children.

1. Arie born Jan. 29, 1859
2. Willemijntje born Dec. 6, 1860

Hermanus (**IX AAAAC**) born April 2, 1836. Married Willemijntje Kop. He was grain miller at "de Eendracht" in Gouwsluis. They had four children:

1. Geertje Elisabeth died Feb. 1, 1864
2. Arie Mattijs (**X AAAACB**) born Nov. 8, 1865, died March 1945. He was a merchant in 'sMolenaarsburg near Oudshoorn. No children, he was a very tall man, with coal-black hair and beard, with a deep, penetrating voice. Married to Jacoba Geertruida Bos.
3. Mattijs Willem (**X AAAACA**) born Oct. 26, 1867. He was a grain miller on "de Eendracht" at Gouwsluis.
4. Elisabeth Adriana born May 22, 1876, unmarried.

Arie Dam (**VII AAB**) born 1773, lived at Oudshoorn where he was a baker. Married Grietje Hoogervorst, they had 17 children:

1. Neeltje born Jan. 28, 1800
2. Marijtje born died May 19, 1801
3. Marijtje died May 12, 1802
4. Marijtje died August 4, 1803
5. Marijtje born May 17, 1804
6. Adriaantje born June 16, 1805
7. Dirkje born July 25, 1807
8. Arij born May 19, 1809
9. Hendrik born Nov. 30, 1810
10. Dirk born April 30, 1811
11. Grietje born May 10, 1812
12. Grietje born March 2, 1813, died Sept. 28, 1813
13. Dirk born April 30, 1815, died Oct. 2, 1815
14. Wilhelmina born May 13, 1816
15. Magdalena born Feb. 19, 1819
16. Dirk (**VIII AABA**) born Aug. 29, 1820
17. Willem born May 9, 1822, died Sept. 16, 1822

Dirk Dam (**VIII AABA**) born August 29, 1820. Married Neeltje Bos, they had three children:

1. Grietje born Jan. 12, 1846
2. Arij born Feb. 3, 1851 (twin)
3. Peitje born Feb. 2, 1851 (twin)

Willem Dam (**VII AAC**) born Sept. 1, 1776 at Oudshoorn. Married Oct. 13, 1799 to Magdalena Oosthoek, born 177 , died 1825. He was a grain miller on "Morgenster" at Aarlanderveen from 1808 to 1823 and from 1823 to 1849 at "de Smalle Juffer" at Oudshoorn. They had 13 children:

1. Arie (**VIII AAC**) born Feb. 19, 1800
2. Aartje born Sept. 4, 1801, died Sept. 24, 1873. Married in 1823 to Leendert van Leewen.
3. Pieter born 1802, died July 9, 1803
4. Neeltje born May 10, 1804 died May 3, 1873. Married in 1826 to Arij van der Bijl.
5. Anna Petronella born Aug. 16, 1806
6. Pieter born 1808, died 1815
7. Maartje born Feb. 1, 1814, died 1814
8. Maartje (**VIII AACB**) born March 9, 1815. Married Adrianus vander Sluys Wildt who became grain miller at "de Smalle Juffer" at Oudshoorn.
9. Marigje born June 1, 1817
10. Pieter born 1820, died 1820
11. Adriana born Jan. 18, 1821. Married Dirk van Geel.
12. Dirkje born Nov. 9, 1824
13. Grietje married to Jacobus Samson

Arie Dam (**VIII AAC**) born Feb. 19, 1800, died Nov. 2, 1883. Married May 9, 1824 to Klaziena van Leeuwen. He was a grain miller on "Morgenster" at Gouwsluis and later became a farmer. They had four children:

1. Willem born April 9, 1825
2. Magdalena born Sept. 12, 1826
3. Bastianna Maria born Aug. 12, 1828
4. Arie born June 28, 1838

Arie Dam (**IX AACAA**) born 28, 1838. He was a farmer at Aarlanderveen and later at Rijswijk near The Hague. Married May 5, 1864 to Aaltje Broekhuijsen. They had 11 children, all born at Aarlanderveen.

1. Arie born Oct. 21, 1864
2. Simon born Jan. 5, 1866. Married to Geert-

je van Geest. They had 14 children.

3. Willem born 1867, died 1951. Married to Johanna Ket. They had 11 children.
4. Maria Dam born and died 1869
5. Maria Dam born May 21, 1870. Married to Jan Esser. They had 5 children.
6. Cornelis Albers Dam born 1872, died 1965. Married to Margaretha C. Degenhart. They had 13 children.
7. Jacobus Dam born 1874 died 1964. Married to Cornelia van den Boom. They had three children.
8. Klaas Dam born May 18, 1877, passed away at a young age.
9. Hermanus Johannes Dam born 1879, died 1933. Married to Marijtje Oudshoorn. They had 6 children.
10. Klaas Dam born 1881, died 1964. Married to Jannetje van den Broek. They had 5 children.
11. Clazina Dam, married to Herman Veelekoop. They had 1 son.

Klaas Dam (**X AACAAA**) born March 1, 1881, died Sept. 25, 1964. Married May 20, 1903 to Jannetje Vanden Broek, born Nov. 25, 1879, died Oct. 31, 1966.

He was a wagon maker by trade and immigrated to Sioux City, Iowa in 1908. They had five children of whom the two oldest were born in Scheveningen, the others in Sioux City.

1. Arie (Harry) born March 1, 1905, bus driver, Huron S.D. Married Aug 25, 1929 Marie Martens, born Sept. 30, 1910. They had five children:
 1. Dorothy Ann, born Aug. 9, 1930, died April 26, 1976. Married Ronald Dean Knight, born Jan. 9, 1930. They had two children:
 - a. Jay Lee Knight born Mar. 15, 1951
 - b. Mark Allen Knight born Aug. 8, 1955
 2. Jeanette Mae Dam, born June 27, 1932, office worker, San Diego, Calif. Married Constantine P. Petrow April 11, 1953. They had one child:
 - a. Joline Ann Petrow born Jan. 26, 1954
 3. Harriette Marie Dam born Sept. 2, 1935, Huron, So. Dakota. Married Francis Jerome Greschke Sept. 17, 1957, they had three children:
 - a. Charles Edward born Aug. 6, 1953
 - b. Scott Allen born July 28, 1958
 - c. Barry Den born May 23, 1961

4. Harry Dam, Jr. born March 28, 1937, Walnut, Calif., pizza parlor operator. Married Dec. 24, 1956 to Mary Elizabeth Berger. They had 3 children:
 - a. Brian Lee born Dec. 4, 1959
 - b. Karla born Sept. 11, 1965
 - c. Greg born Sept. 6, 1966
5. Marian Jean born Jan. 16, 1940, Sioux City, Ia. Married Nov. 16, 1956 to Alex Thomas Knepper, they had 5 children:
 - a. Kevin Tomas born Aug. 12, 1957
 - b. Bradley Michael born Mar. 17, 1959
 - c. Lisa Marie born Apr. 11, 1963, died Apr. 13, 1963
 - d. Cynthia Ann born Apr. 13, 1964
 - e. Paul Andrew born Oct. 7, 1969
2. Jacobus Dam (Jack Dam, Sr.) born July 9, 1907, Sioux City. Bus driver and mobile home sales. Married Sept. 25, 1926 to Estella Mae Sheetz, they had 1 child:
 1. Jack Junior Dam born April 12, 1927, real estate broker, Sioux City, Iowa. Married May 31, 1948 to Laura Mae Janson. They had five children:
 - a. Jacqueline Mae born July 24, 1949. Married Jan. 9, 1972 to Gordon Clark Slothower, they had 2 children:
 - David Michael born 6/24/72
 - Diann Carole born 1/13/75
 - b. Barbara Joyce Dam (teacher), born Nov. 20, 1951. Married June 2, 1974 to Timothy Jo Hattig, they had 2 children:
 - Russel Edward born 4/13/76
 - Ryan Lee born 6/30/79
 - c. Karen Jean born Sept. 4, 1953. Married Sept. 22, 1979 to Douglas Wayne Johnson
 - d. Brian Jay born May 12, 1962
 - e. Craig Alan born Dec. 8, 1966
 3. Nickolas (Nick) Dam (Changed name to Nickolas Vander Dam in 1942.) Born Feb. 18, 1912, retired U.S. Army Sargeant, Waynesville, Missouri. Married Jan. 8, 1946 to Mary Elizabeth Allen. They had 3 children:
 1. Elizabeth Jane Vander Dam born Nov. 2, 1946. Married July 8, 1967 to Robert Dent Boydston, they had 2 children:
 - a. Elizabeth Belinda born February 14, 1968
 - b. Michael Bryan born December 15, 1970

2. Carol Sue Vander Dam born Feb. 19, 1949. Married June 12, 1970 to John Edward Johnson, they had 1 child:
 - a. Laura Christine born May 7, 1977
3. Mary Ellen Vander Dam born Sept. 11, 1956. Married Sept. 6, 1975 to Timothy Harold Hostland, they had twin boys, Nathan and Nicholas.
4. John Dam, Sr. born Mar. 18, 1916, died Jan. 5, 1969. Lived in Sioux Falls, S.D. Married June 25, 1937 to Helen May Hopkins, they had 7 children:
 1. John Dam, Jr. born June 30, 1938. Married Nov. 2, 1957 to Vernadine Kay Christiansen, they had 3 children:
 - a. Jody Lynn born Dec. 19, 1958
 - b. Mark Allen born Jan. 18, 1960
 - c. Denise Monica born April 2, 1968
 2. Robert Lee Dam born Aug. 16, 1940. Married June 15, 1962 to Helen Marie Singer, they had 4 children:
 - a. Angela Jo born Jan. 31, 1963
 - b. Robin Le born March 19, 1965
 - c. Jeri Lynn born Oct. 14, 1966
 - d. Coral Ann born Dec. 29, 1970
 3. Janice May born March 28, 1942. Married Dec. 26, 1964 to Donald Ray Bruns, they had 3 children:
 - a. David Jay born Jan. 13, 1962
 - b. Paul Troy born May 3, 1964
 - c. Steven John born Feb. 2, 1969
 4. Thomas Eugene born July 28, 1943. Married Dec. 6, 1964 to Georgia Lynn Ahrenholtz, they had 4 children:
 - a. Todd Eugene born Nov. 29, 1965
 - b. Troy Neil born Mar. 5, 1967
 - c. Tracey Allen born Oct. 8, 1968
 - d. April Lynn born Nov. 9, 1972
5. James Neil born May 8, 1946. Married April 12, 1969 to Connie Kay Guthmiller, they had 2 children:
 - a. Kimberly Kay born Jan. 7, 1971
 - b. Christopher James born Oct. 5, 1974
6. Debra Jean born April 8, 1961
7. Tami Jo born May 29, 1962
5. Alida Jeannette (Jennie) Dam born Oct. 14, 1918, Sioux City, Iowa. Married Jan. 21, 1939 to Edward John Ludwick, they had 4 children:
 1. Gerald Wayne (Jerry) born Nov. 14, 1940. Married June 29, 1961 to Carol Jean Frame, they had 2 children:
 - a. Jodi Lynn born May 20, 1964
 - b. Lance Allen born Dec. 6, 1967
 2. Richard Paul born July 20, 1943. Married Nov. 29, 1968 to Delores Jean Whelton, they had 2 children:
 - a. Leigh Heather born Feb. 20, 1971
 - b. Mark Allen born May 15, 1974
 3. Phyllis Ann Ludwick born Aug. 16, 1946. Married July 14, 1967 to Wayne George Fethke, they had 2 children:
 - a. Mathew George T. born Sept. 9, 1970
 - b. Nathan Benjamin born Sept. 7, 1974
 4. Peggy Lynn born Oct. 8, 1954. Married Oct. 26, 1974 to Douglas Burton Johnson, no children.

Chapter V

Part 2

The line of brother Jacobus 1743-1811

Jacobus Dam (**VI AB**) born Nov. 17, 1743, died 1811 at Heerjansdam. Married June 8, 1766 at MHL to Lyntje Niemantsverdriet, born Oct. 26, 1740, died June 24, 1769.

Married June 9, 1771 to Johanna Hordyk, died May 31, 1782.

Married April 24, 1785 to Lyntje de Haan, born Jan. 14, 1753, died August 27, 1823.

Jacobus was grain miller on "de Landzicht" which his father had built at Heerjansdam.

Children of Jacobus Dam and Lyntje Niemanstverdriet:

1. Arij born May 10, 1767, died April 18, 1770
2. Trijntje born Jan. 29, 1769, died Feb. 11, 1769
3. Arie died Feb. 12, 1781

Children of Jacobus Dam and Johanna Hordyk

4. Margrietje born Sept. 20, 1772
5. Jacob born April 10, 1774, died June 24, 1775
6. Adriaantje born June 18, 1775, died Aug. 30, 1775
7. Lijsbeth born Aug. 11, 1776, died Oct. 9, 1788
8. Ariaantje born Jan. 18, 1778, died Nov. 14, 1778
9. Adriana born April 25, 1779, died Jan. 27, 1822. Married to Dammis van't Zelfde
10. Jacob born Sept. 17, 1780
11. Jacoba born May 12, 1782, died June 12, 1782

Children of Jacobus Dam and Lijntje de Haan

12. Hendrikje born Feb. 20, 1787
13. Arij (**VII ABA**) born Sept. 3, 1789, died Mar. 4, 1879*

14. Jan born June, 1791, died Dec. 14, 1879
15. Lijsabeth born Nov. 11, 1793, died Sept. 9, 1795
16. Lijsabeth born Oct. 24, 1795, died Sept. 23, 1800

Arie Dam (**VII ABAA**) born Sept. 3, 1789, died Mar. 4, 1879. Married Feb. 14, 1814 to Elizabeth Visser, born Sept. 1, 1793.

He owned a mill at Numansdorp which he had purchased from his second cousin Arij Dam (**BAA**). His son-in-law Arie Maasdam became the grain miller at Numansdorp. Arie Dam had six children:

1. Jacobus (**VIII ABAA**) born July 1, 1814
2. Maria (**VIII ABAC**) born May 20, 1815, died Oct. 26, 1887. Married Arie Maasdam Jan. 14, 1841. Arie Maasdam was born Sept. 3, 1813, died Aug. 7, 1891. He was grain miller and farmer at Numansdorp.
3. Wiekert born Jan. 8, 1817, died Feb. 5, 1818
4. Wiekert (**VIII ABAB**) born May 7, 1818, died July 24, 1875
5. Arij born Mar. 25, 1822, died June 15, 1822
6. Lijntje born Nov. 6, 1828

Jakobus Dam (**VIII ABAA**) born July 1, 1814. Married July 22, 1837 to Neeltje Niemantsverdriet born Jan. 21, 1815, died July 20, 1888.

He was a flax farmer in the IJsselmonde. They had eight children:

1. Arie born Dec. 15, 1837
2. Arie Jan born Nov. 11, 1838
3. Jan Arie born Oct. 1, 1839
4. Jan Arie born Nov. 24, 1840
5. Jacobus Cent born Jan. 31, 1842
6. Elizabeth Fennegina born Mar. 3, 1843. Married C.W. de Lijster

7. Jacobus born April 23, 1845
8. Fennegina Adriana born April 26, 1846

Weikert Dam (**VIII ABAB**) born May 7, 1818, died July 24, 1875. Married April 26, 1844 to Maria Cornelisina Bardendregt, born Feb. 25, 1823, died May 19, 1882.

He was grain miller at Numansdorp until 1841 as manager for his father and later became farmer at Heerjansdam. His brother-in-law Arie Maasdam then became the miller at Numansdorp. He had eight children:

1. Katharina Rokuzina born April 7, 1847, died July 3, 1927. Married July 13, 1868 to Jan Lagendijk, born June 8, 1841, a gardener.
2. Elisabeth married Floris Blijdorp. No children.
3. Ariaantje Elisabeth born Nov. 12, 1848 died Jan. 24, 1914. Married April 27, 1869 to Aart Marius Visser born Mar. 26, 1849, died Feb. 16, 1912. He was a farmer.
4. Rochus Catharinus (**IX ABABA**) married Anna Cornelia Mast Nov. 12, 1875. He was a farmer at Barendrecht.
5. Arie Marius (**IX ABABB**) born 1853, died June 16, 1901. Married Oct. 6, 1876 to Lena Schrijver, born 1855, died June 3, 1898. He was a farmer.
6. Maria Cornelisina born 1855, died April 13, 1930. Not married.
7. Johanna married Jan Leenheer
8. Wiekert Jacobus (**ABABC**) born Nov. 6, 1856, died March 3, 1940 at Rijsoord. Married June 3, 1880 to Wilemina van Gilst, born Dec. 1, 1854. This was a cousin of the wife of Jacob Dam (**BAABC**).

Rochus Catharinus (**IX ABABA**) married Nov. 12, 1875 to Anna Cornelia Mast. He was a farmer at Barendrecht. They had eight children:

1. Aagje married Dirk Boelhouwer
2. Anna Cornelia born Sept. 1, 1884, died March 14, 1928. Married to Nicolaas Rocus Barendregt, born Feb. 7, 1886, died Nov. 26, 1953.
3. Maria Cornelia born 1887, married Gerrit de Geus.
4. Adriaantje married Christoffel de Snoo
5. Jacoba Maria married Pieter Stehouwer
6. Wiekert born March 23, 1891. Married Maria Petronella vander Kulk, born 1893.
7. Pieter married Maria Boer
8. Rochus Catharinus born May 28, 1893, died Dec. 20, 1965. Married Nov. 6, 1920 to Antje

Leeuwenburg, born April 6, 1899.

Married Marijtje Ruighaver.

Arie Marius (**IX ABABB**) born 1853, died June 16, 1901. Married Oct. 6, 1876 to Lena Schrijver, born 1855, died June 3, 1898.

He was a farmer in the area of Cillaarshoek. They had six children:

1. Rokus Wiekert (**X ABABBA**) married Maria Maasdam born 1880, died Aug. 20, 1968. They had one son:
 1. A.M. Dam (**ABABBA**).
2. Leendert born 1879, died Sept. 2, 1960. Married to L.A. Kleinjan. He was a farmer.
3. Wiekert R., farmer at Strijen.
4. Arie
5. Johan (**X ABABBB**) married Rozetta Klazina Leeuwenburg, born 1890, died July 26, 1967. They had two children:
 1. A.M. Dam (**ABABBB**) married M. A.M. Mast
 2. A daughter R.K. Dam married J. Roest
6. Hermanus married Elizabeth Jacoba Maasdam, born 1883, died July 21, 1965. They had one son:
 1. Arie Marius Dam

Wiekert Jacob Dam (**IX ABABC**) born Nov. 6, 1856, died Mar. 1, 1940. Married Wilemina van Gilst June 3, 1880. She was born Dec. 1, 1854. They had nine children:

1. Marie, unmarried
2. Wilhelmina Maria born Sept. 5, 1882, died Nov. 7, 1933. Married Adrianus Leeuwenburg, a farmer
3. Wiekert married Marie Rookje van Gilst, born 1886, died Mar. 17, 1932. He was a farmer.
4. Willem (**X ABABCA**) married Pietertje Annigje Leeuwenburg, born 1885, died Sept. 9, 1966. He was a farmer at Heerjansdam.
5. Elizabeth married H. de Zeeuw who was a farmer.
6. Adriana, unmarried
7. Jan married Elizabeth Visser. He was a farmer.
8. Rokus Catharinus (**X ABACB**) born July 28, 1894. Married Catharina Rokusina Visser July 26, 1895.
9. Jacoba married Hendrik vander Linden

Willem Dam (**X ABABCA**) married Pietertje Annigje Leeuwenburg. They had three children:

1. Jan Dam (**XI ABACAA**) born 1920, died

Aug. 7, 1969, farmer at Wieldrecht. Married Cornelia A. In'tVeld. They had three children:

1. Willem
2. Jan
3. Bastiaan

2. Wiekert J. Dam married A.L. Van Vliet
3. Willem Dam (**XI ABABCAC**) married Sara Schelling. He was a farmer.

Rokus Catharinus (**X ABABCB**) born July 28, 1894, a farmer. Married Catharina Rokusina Visser, born July 26, 1895. They had one son.

1. Wiekert Jacobus Dam (**XI ABABCBA**) born Oct. 22, 1928, died Sept. 26, 1967, a farmer. Married Cornelia Wilhelmina de Rijke, born Jan. 19, 1929.

Jan Dam (**VII ABB**) born June 1791, died Dec. 14, 1879. Married May 21, 1819 to Ariaantje Vlasblom, born 1798, died Aug. 7, 1839. Daughter of Willem Corstiaanse Vlasblom and Marijgje Dirkse Dronk.

He was a grain miller at "Landzicht" at Heerjansdam. They had four children:

1. Jacobus (**VIII ABBA**) born May 5, 1820, died Jan. 18, 1876
2. Neeltje born May 19, 1822, died Oct. 2, 1822
3. Christaan (**VIII ABBB**) born Jan. 23, 1825, died June 16, 1910
4. Neeltje born Sept. 13, 1828, died June 16, 1910

Jacobus (**VIII ABBA**) born May 5, 1820, died Jan. 18, 1876. Married Aug. 17, 1849 to Trintje Adriaantje Landheer, born April 2, 1827, died Oct. 24, 1883. He was grain miller at the mill "de Vreda" at Strijen. They had nine children:

1. Adriaantje Lijntje born 1850, died Oct. 25, 1915. Married Nov. 23, 1871 to Willem Maris, born 1847, died April 29, 1923. He was a baker.
2. Jacobus (**IX ABBA**) born Aug. 23, 1851, died July 27, 1944.
3. Lijntje Adriana born Jan. 4, 1856.
4. Jan (**IX ABBA**) born Feb. 11, 1857, died Oct. 16, 1928
5. Rijka Elisabeth born April 7, 1860, died 1906
6. Gerardina Jacoba born Feb. 1, 1862, died

Feb. 16, 1941. She was unmarried.

7. Jacoba Trijntje born Jan. 7, 1864, died Aug. 2, 1960
8. Trijntje Jacoba born Mar. 27, 1866, died Dec. 17, 1947
9. Neeltje Janna born Feb. 27, 1869, died Feb. 25, 1929.



At Nieuw Vannepe the grain mill "de Rijzende Zon" was operated by Jacobus Dam. (Jacobus ABAA)

Jacobus (**IX ABBA**) born Aug. 23, 1851, died July 27, 1944. He was grain miller at "de Rijzende Zon" at Nieuw Vannepe. Married Maria Maaike Steenbergen, born Mar. 23, 1853, died May 22, 1883. They had eight children.

Married Dec. 23, 1885 to Catharina Vreeken born Nov. 24, 1866, died July 27, 1944.

Children of Jacobus Dam and Maria Maaike Steenbergen:

1. Trijntje Adriaantje born Feb. 17, 1872. Married June 28, 1899 to Rijk Tas, born July 4, 1875, died Aug. 10, 1933.
2. Maaike born March 11, 1874. Married July 1899 to Roelof Willem Kuipers.
3. Jacobus born June 30, 1876, died May 19, 1879. Killed by arm of windmill.

4. Adriaantje Lijntje born 1877, died Feb. 2, 1879
5. Arie (**X ABBAAA**) born Sept. 28, 1878, died Sept. 5, 1912. Married Cornelia van Wezel, born Nov. 17, 18
6. Adriaantje Lijntje Jacoba born Mar. 8, 1880, died Dec. 3, 1917. Married Johannis Lughart, born Feb. 21, 18
7. Jacobus (**X ABBAAB**) born March 31, 1881 died Oct. 26, 1941. Married Sentje C. Boutkamp. They had two children:
 1. Jacobus born April 19, 1922
 2. Marie Dam in U.S.A.
8. Jan Cornelis born Aug. 25, 1882, died Jan. 20, 1939. Married Neeltje Bos. They had no children.

Children of Jacobus Dam and Catharina Vreeken:

9. Lijntje born Sept. 25, 1886. Married Cornelis van Geest.
10. Jacob Sept. 6, 1887, died Mar. 27, 1889
11. Rijk Eliza born Sept. 22, 1888, died Mar. 27, 1889.
12. Martha Magdalena Maria born Sept. 26, 1889. Married Fop van Teijlingen, born Sept. 18, 1887.
13. Rijka Elisabeth born Oct. 14, 1890, died Dec. 10, 1890.
14. Jacob (**X ABBAAC**) born Nov. 20, 1891. Married Johanna Henderina van Tongerloo, born Nov. 7, 1894, died May 24, 1922.
15. Gerard Jacobus born Feb. 26, 1893, died July 3, 1893.
16. Gerdina Jacoba born May 26, 1894, died Aug. 20, 1894.
17. Magdalena Maria Martha born Aug. 12 1895, died Sept. 13, 1895.
18. Jacobus Catharinus born Jan. 26, 1897, died May 3, 1897.
19. Magdalena Maria Lijntje born May 24, 1898. Married Cornelis Pieter van Geest. They had no children.
20. Gerdina Jacoba, born Feb. 27, 1900. She was unmarried.
21. Rijka Elisabeth, born Oct. 15, 1901. She was unmarried.
22. Adriana Jacoba Catharina (**X ABBAAD**) born April 10, 1913. Married Reijer Albers, born April 15, 1912.

This couple visited the home of Jacobus Dam (**XI AACAAAAA**) in August, 1980. They are doing research work on the Dam family

tree in Holland and preparing a book. The author of this genealogy visited with them and we compared notes.

Arie Dam (**X ABBAAA**), Jacobus' son born Sept. 28, 1878, died Sept. 5, 1912. Married Cornelia Van Wezel, born Nov. 17, 18 . They had five children:

1. Jacobus, married and has three children, lives in Rotterdam.
2. Lena
3. Jacob lives in Rotterdam
4. Arie lives in Rotterdam, no children
5. Rijk Jan Roelof, born Aug. 6, 1911, died Aug. 5, 1935. No children.

Jacobus Dam (**X ABBAAB**), born Mar. 31, 1881, died Oct. 26, 1941 in Rotterdam. Married Sentje C. Boutkamp. They had two children:

1. Jacobus born April 19, 1922, unmarried
2. Marie lives in the U.S.A.

Jacob Dam (**X ABBAAC**) born Nov. 20, 1891. Married Johanna Henderina van Tongerloo, born Nov. 7, 1894, died May 24, 1922. They had one son:

1. Jacobus (**XI ABBAACA**) born April 16, 1922. Married Jan. 26, 1949 to Zoetje Lakeman born Sept. 9, 192 . No children.

Jacob Dam remarried to Willemina Johanna Kulk. They had two children:

2. Johannes Jacob Willem (**XI ABBAACAA**) born Nov. 23, 1939.
3. Catharina Jacoba born March 26, 1941

Jan Dam (**IX ABBAB**) born Feb. 2, 1857, born at Strijen and died in Delft Oct. 16, 1928. Married Aug. 30, 1878 to Hendrika de Koning, born Oct. 5, 1854, died Feb. 10, 1933.

He was a miller at the mill "Vrede" at Strijen. They had six children.

1. Trijntje Adriaantje born 1879, died July 2, 1940. Married A.C. Hofman Jr., born 1880, died July 9, 1950.
2. Aart born Aug. 27, 1883, died April 13, 1915, unmarried.
3. Elsje born Sept. 7, 1884, died May 19, 1967. Married Maarten Solleveld, born Dec. 10, 1880, died Nov. 1, 1944.
4. Jacoba Lijntje born Dec. 25, 1886, died July 9, 1966, unmarried
5. Jacobus Art (**X ABBAABA**) born Sept. 23, 1890, died Aug. 24, 1929. Married Dec. 7,

1916 to Hermina de Koning, born Oct. 8, 1894. He was grain miller at the mill "de Vrede" at Strijen. They had one son:

1. Jan born March 31, 1918
6. Leentje L. married H.B. Coelman

Christiaan Dam (**VIII ABBB**) born Jan. 16, 1825, died June 16, 1910. Married May 19, 1853 to Annigje van't Zelfde. He was grain miller at the mill "Landzicht" at Heerjansdam and owned the grain mills at Maasdam and 'sGravendeel. They had seven children:

1. Jan born Oct. 30, 1853 (triplet)
2. Gerrit born Oct. 30, 1853 (triplet)
3. Adriaantje born Oct. 30, 1853 (triplet)
4. Jan Gerrit (**IX ABBBBB**) born Jan. 1, 1855, died June 17, 1939, unmarried. He was grain miller at the mill "Landzicht" at Heerjansdam. His nephew, Cornelis Christiaan took over this business after Jan retired.
5. Gerrit (**IX ABBBA**) born Jan. 15, 1856 died Nov. 23, 1935. Married Aug. 27, 1876 to

Gerdina van Warendorp, born May 20, 1855.

6. Jacobus born May 25, 1857, died Jan. 18, 1876.
7. Christiaan Jan born Oct. 27, 1858, died young.

Gerrit Dam (**IX ABBBA**) born Jan. 15, 1856 at Heerjansdam, died Nov. 23, 1935 at 'sGravendeel. Married Aug. 27, 1876 to Gerdina van Warendorp, born May 20, 1855, died Jan. 20, 1887. They had four children.

Married July 18, 1889 Sija Willemina van Trigt, born Oct. 21, 1867, died 1957. They had four children.

Gerrit was grain miller at the mill "de Hoop" at Maasdam from 1877 to 1920.

Children of Gerrit Dam and Gerdina Van Warendorp

1. Cornelia Annigje (**X ABBAA**) born Dec. 19, 1876 died July 11, 1961. Married May 27,



This type of mill is called a (stellingmolen) tower mill because of its elevation above the ground level to catch the wind. It was named "de Hoop" and was operated by Gerrit Dam at Maasdam (Gerrit ABBBA)

1897 to Barend Zinkweg, born Mar. 23, 1875, died June 22, 1940, a farmer.

2. Christiaan Cornelis (**X ABBBAB**) born Jan. 13, 1879, died May 20, 1943. Married 1904 to M.P. Gaaderse.
3. Cornelis Christiaan born May 25, 1882, died Sept. 29, 1954. Married H. Gottschaal. He was the last Dam to be grain miller at the mill "Landzicht" at Heerjansdam which he sold in 1927 to J.J. Heijboer.
4. Jan Christiaan born 1884, died June 4, 1949. Married Elizabeth Noort. They had no children. He dealt in the buying and selling of books.

Children of Gerrit Dam and Sija Willemina van Trigt.

5. Maartijntje Hendrika married J.J. van de Erve, who was a farmer at Bergschenhoek.
6. Annigje, unmarried.
7. Hendrika, unmarried
8. Reinier, immigrated to U.S.A. in 1924.

Christiaan Cornelis Dam (**X ABBBAB**) born Jan. 13, 1879 at Maasdam and died May 20, 1943 at 'sGravendeel. Married 1904 to M.P. Gaanderse.

He was grain miller at 'sGravendeel at mill "Vliegend Hert". They had one son:

1. Gerrit Pieter (**XI ABBBABA**) born May 31, 1905, married Corry G. de Jong.

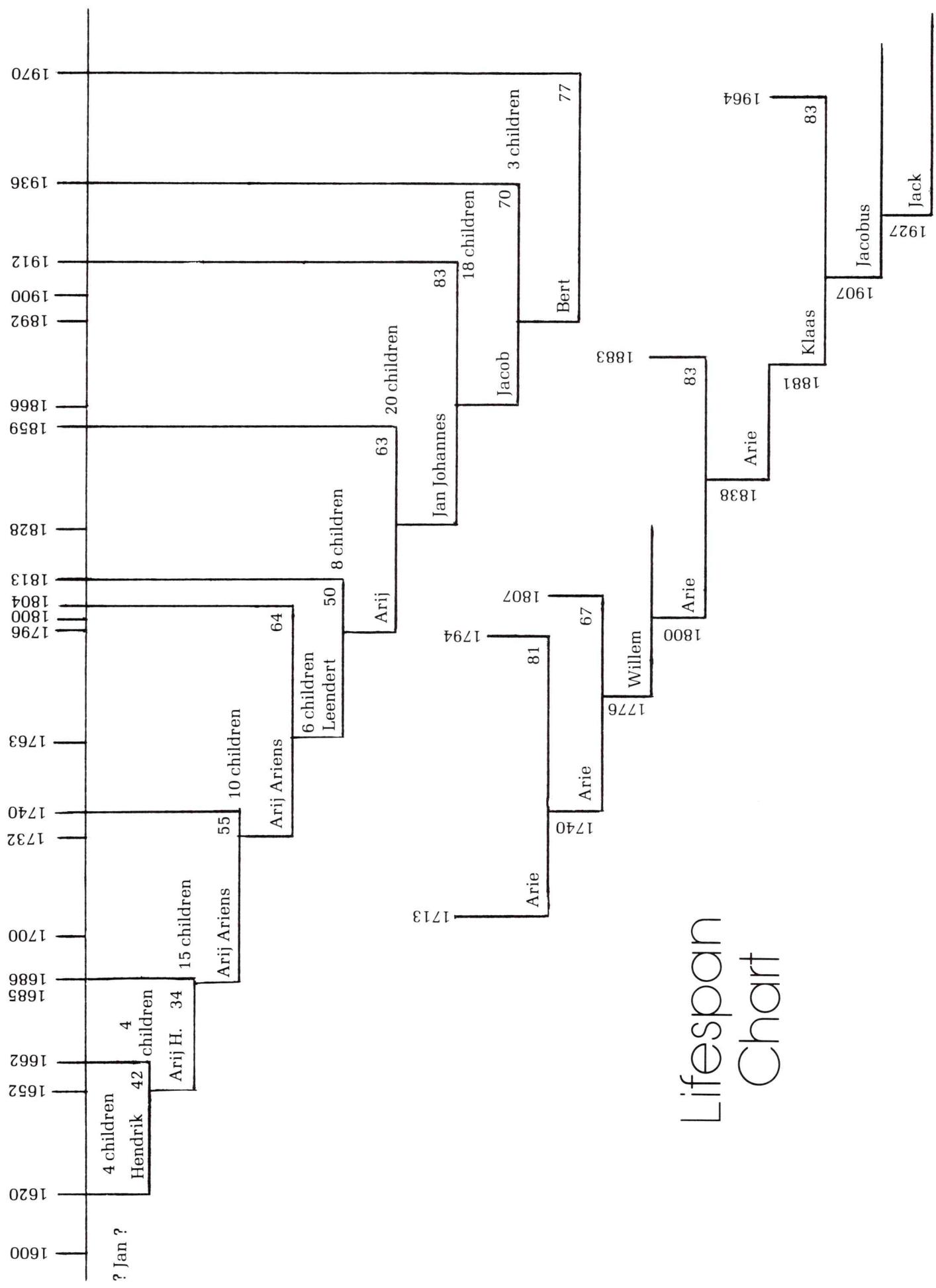
Since 1938 grain miller at mill "Vliegend Hert" at 'sGravendeel. They had one daughter:

1. Janny Dam



The grain mill "Vliegend Hert" in 'sGravendeel, operated by Christian Dam. (Christian ABBBAB)

Lifespan Chart



Chapter VI

The three generations of Numansdorp Millers

Generation V B

Arij Ariens Dam

Arij Ariens Dam born approximately 1732 at 'sGravendeel died Aug. 24, 1804, Numansdorp. Married May 5, 1759 to Maria Visser born Aug. 7, 1734, died Feb. 17, 1773.

Remarried Sept. 29, 1776 to Johanna Franken, died Feb. 20, 1779. Arij was master miller at Numansdorp from the time his mother retired in 1763 to 1795.

Very little is known of this family except from their last will stating the importance of their children learning a good vocation or having a good profession. A week after they made a joint will, Maria died leaving a ten-year-old son Leendert whose line we follow and a year-old-son who died shortly after her passing. Eight other children died young.

The will follows in abbreviated form:

On Feb. 9, 1773 appeared before the officials of Numansdorp at Cromstrijen, Arij Dam, master miller and Maria Visser, his wife. He was healthy and she was in ill health. They appeared to make their last will and testament in lieu of all previous testaments. Their will was to make each other their heir of all their real and personal possessions. Their children or children to be born were to be provided for and taught to read and write and learn a good vocation or profession and when they became of age all together they were to receive a thousand guilders in lieu of their legal rights. If any of the children should decease as a minor, the remaining

would benefit in equal shares, as set forth in the laws of the province of North Holland. If Arij should die first, Hendrik Dam would be trustee and if she should die first her brother, Gerrit Visser, would serve as trustee.

Ten children were born to Arij Dam and Maria Visser of whom six died in infancy and were not baptized. The four others follow:

1. Ariaantje baptized Dec. 2, 1759. Married Nov. 9, 1777 to Yzak Jansz Knoot.
2. Arie baptized Nov. 22, 1761, died Dec. 24, 1772.
3. Leendert (**VI BA**) baptized July 31, 1763, died Dec. 24, 1813. Married on Nov. 14, 1790 at Numansdorp to Hendriksje Kloppenburg, baptized Dec. 12, 1760 at Goudswaard, died Nov. 22, 1840, daughter of Jan Dirks Kloppenburg and Grietje Ariens van Zorgen. After Arij's death she remarried Adriaanus Postelius Corneliszn.
4. Pieter baptized Feb. 9, 1772, died March 25, 1774.

Generation VI BA

Leendert Dam Arijsn

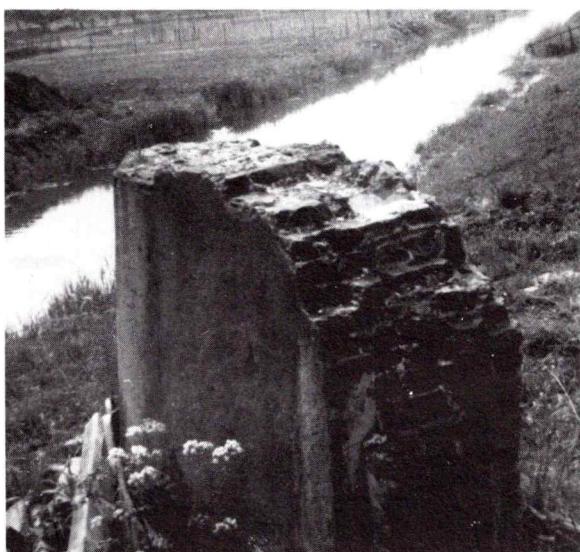
Leendert Dam born July 31, 1763, died June 24, 1813 at Numansdorp. Married Nov. 14, 1790 to Hendriksje Kloppenburg, born Dec. 21, 1760 at Goudswaard. Died Nov. 22, 1842 at Numansdorp.

After his father's retirement as chief miller

in 1795, he took over that coveted position. It is very likely that his wife continued the operation after Leendert's death. Their daughter, Maria, married the miller's helper and he being nine years her senior, was a great help to the widowed mother. She retired from the mill when son Arij took over in 1820. Leendert was a zealous patriot during his time when Napoleon ruled Holland. During the period between 1809 and 1813 the French flag had been flying on Leendert's mill. The French army was located to the south across the waterway, Hollands Dieppe in the city of Willemstad. The natives of Numansdorp were quite ready to declare their independence so Leendert took down the French flag and replaced it with the Holland flag. The Hoeksewaard has since that time been under the Holland rule.

Six children were born to Leendert Dam and Hendriksje Kloppenburg of whom three died in infancy and Jan as a young man of twenty years old.

1. Arij born July 18, 1791, baptized July 24, 1791, died April 17, 1793.
2. Grietje born July 18, 1791, baptized July 24, 1791, died Aug. 17, 1791.
3. Jan born Jan. 21, 1793, baptized Jan. 27, 1793, died April 10, 1813.
4. Stillborn infant died Feb. 24, 1794.



Foundation of the grain mill in Numansdorp on the Molendijk which the Dam family operated over a century.

5. Marija born July 21, 1795, baptized July 26, 1795, confession Mar. 14, 1815, died May 19, 1860.

Married May 8, 1816 to Bastiaan Haupt, born 1786 at Heenvliet. He was a miller's helper in Leendert's mill in Numansdorp. Remarried March 3, 1842 to Andries vander Touw.

6. Arij (**VII BAA**) born Oct. 29, 1796, baptized Oct. 30, 1796, confession 1818, died Aug. 18, 1859.

Married at Numansdorp May 30, 1817 to Krijna de Graaf born Sept. 22, 1795, died April 1, 1856, daughter of Jacob de Graaf a ship captain of Dordrecht, born 1757 at Puttershoek, died Oct. 23, 1834, who was a son of Johannes Janse de Graaf and Baartje Cornelliese vande Grient and of Elizabeth Nieuwland, born in Heinenord Dec. 17, 1769, died Jan. 7, 1848, daughter of Abraham Pieter Nieuiland (baker) and Krijna Leendertsd Klootwych.

Generation VII BAA

Arij Dam Leendertszoon 1796-1859

Arij Dam born Oct. 29, 1796, baptized Oct. 30, confession 1818 at Numansdorp, died Aug. 18, 1859 at Numansdorp. Married May 30, 1817, to Krijna de Graaf, born Sept. 22, 1795, baptized Sept. 27, died April 1, 1856.

Arij Dam became miller in Numansdorp about 1820 when his mother retired. It is known that he is the sixth generation of millers in the Dam family which is an excellent record of constant and continuous integrity. But this was soon to end. Arij had a problem with strong drink. A miller paid a fine for being intoxicated and after the third offense, would lose his license. This happened to Arij and sometime between 1830 and 1840 the Numansdorp mill had to be sold to a distant cousin. Arij was down and out and became a baker of bread products.

Arij was considered to be well off financially until his drinking problems interfered with business. His wife had an excellent reputation, was a good manager and steered her three sons into becoming successful bakers. Of the eight children born to this couple only four grew to adulthood.

1. Leendert born Mar. 13, 1818, died Mar. 16, 1818
2. Leendert born Oct. 7, 1819, died Oct. 10, 1819
3. Leendert born Nov. 21, 1820, died Dec. 10, 1830
4. Jacob (**VIII BAAA**) born Oct. 13, 1823, died Dec. 1, 1895.

He was a baker and served with his mother in the bakery at Numansdorp. It is not known where his father Arij was or what he was doing, but it is assumed that he associated himself with the town drunks as he had an overbearing drinking problem and could no longer be associated with a respectable business.

Jacob married a shoemaker's daughter Rijnburgje van Teeling and as far as is known they had four children who died in infancy. It is mostly likely that Cornelis Dam, son of Jan Johannes, operated the bakery after Jacob retired.

5. Hendriksje born Feb. 18, 1826, died Sept. 27, 1836.
6. Jan Johannis (**VIII BAAB**) born Aug. 30, 1828, baptized Sept. 21, died in Zuid Beijerland June 2, 1912.
7. Leendert (**VIII BAAC**) born Mar. 27, 1831, died in Hekelingen Jan. 11, 1917. He was a baker of bread products and lived most of his life on "Briels Island." He married a baker's daughter, Maaike van Wijngaarden, born Heinenoord July 2, 1828, died at Hekelingen May 5, 1898. They had no children. The only information available about Leendert is that he was a big speculator and made big money. He died, an old man, at the age of 86 in 1917 in Hekelingen where he had operated a bakery.
8. Elizabeth (**VIII BAAD**) born Dec. 10, 1833, married Teunis Van Hiele and moved to Venlo where he had a high position with the Netherlands government.



"Hevormde Kerk" in Numansdorp where the Dam family worshiped over a century commencing in 1746.

Chapter VII

Jan Johannes Dam, the baker

Generation VIII BAAB

Jan Johannes Dam

The story of Jan Johannes Dam is brief but has certainly left its mark with his many descendants the world over. Jan was the sixth child born to Arij Dam and Krijna de Graaf of whom only his older brother Jacob survived. He also had a younger brother Leendert and sister Elizabeth. His father Arij was the master grain miller in Numansdorp. The young boyhood days of Jan Johannes were tragic indeed when his father lost his license to be grain miller and the mill had to be sold because of indulgence of inebriating spirits. It was during this time that Jan's mother started a bakery in conjunction with the mill and the sons learned the bakery trade after six generations of grain milling. His mother was a saintly old gal and people had confidence and trust in her as her boys were seemingly very ambitious. Jacob, the eldest son, stayed in the bakery at Numansdorp with his mother.

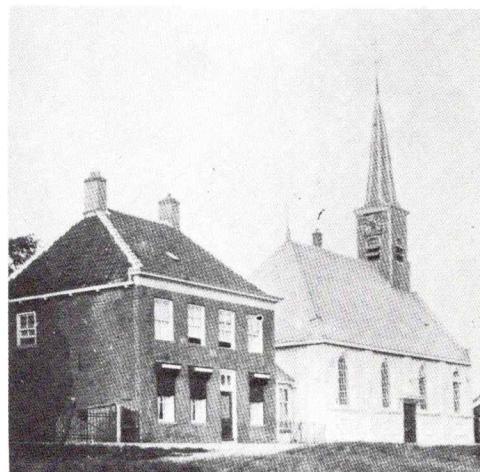
Jan's brother Leendert was a baker in Hekelingen which is a village close to Zuidland where Jan met a girl, Hermina Adriana Van Driel, who was the thirteenth child in her parent's nest. Here Jan lived a short while after his marriage and then moved to Zuid Beijerland where he started or bought a bakery. Jan was a man who liked to operate fast and get things done quickly, so four months after his marriage his first child was born, and after four children nine years later, Jan's wife Hermina died at the age of thirty-three, leaving Jan with three small children. One of the four children had died in infancy.

Again Jan could not live alone very long with his three small children, so being true to the

Biblical adage, "It is not good for man to live alone" and seven and one-half months after his wife died, he married another girl, Hilligje Van Lughtenburg, who again was the thirteenth child out of a family of twenty-one children (all of the same parents) and where there were three sets of twins. So it is very evident that Jan operated fast and liked to be associated with volume.

Jan and Hilligje started out in a big way like her family was accustomed to and in the course of the next twenty-one years, they became parents of seventeen children of whom there was one set of twins. Eight of the seventeen children died in infancy.

Jan operated a bakery in Zuid Beijerland and added to it a store selling groceries and staple



The "Hervormde Kerk" and parsonage which Jan Dam attended. It was built in 1679 and destroyed by fire in 1932. In Zuid Beijerland as well as many other small town churches, it is still customary for the men to sit on one side of the church and the women on the other.

goods. It is said that he had a good business and was considered to be one of the local prosperous merchants. He was charitable to the needy and went out of his way to see that they had provisions. He supported one of his wife's brother's family who were also needy.

Of the people with whom I visited who remembered Jan Dam, these comments follow:

Nephew Dirk Vander Wilt: "I came into the store often and was always glad to get past him. He had a sharp, shrill voice saying "What do you kids want now?" and that scared the daylights out of all of us."

Niece "Tante Dreen": He was a "brompot" (growly) old man, but very good to his wife.

Son Johannes: When we sat at the table everything was orderly and polite. When someone got the least bit out of hand, father would growl "ahem" and then there was long lasting peace because father had spoken.

Granddaughter Nellie: He was always giving food and clothing to the needy and was known to be very charitable and generous.

Grandson John: I always remember grandfather as a very old man, tending to a few pigs which they kept to eat the bakery scraps. Perhaps he ran a few errands and occasionally peeked into the store but I never saw him in the bakery. He must have been a good manager because he provided for his family well and helped anyone in need. He was considered to be a very big spender, because he surely enjoyed spending money. Of the Dam family I would say he was the "last one of the big time spenders." Characterwise I would portray him like brother Jake, not much time for kids and "erg eigewijs" (very set in his way.)

Neither Grandson John nor Granddaughter Nellie remember anything friendly about Grandmother Hellige. They were teenagers and remember her well but not as a grandmother



A sketch showing Jan Dam taking a loaf of bread out of the hot oven with a long, oar-shaped stick.

should be remembered. Well, after all, were not she and her husband entitled to a little peace and quiet after rearing their own litter?



Three dog cart as used by Jan Dam and sons.

Now a bit about the bakery business. Jan Dam's sons were all brought up in the bakery and learned the trade from their father. They would deliver baked goods into the small villages around and stop at the country homes as well. This was done by dog cart. As the weight of the load increased, so too the dog power had to keep pace. Jan had a three-dog cart which was used as a delivery wagon. His sons, John and Johannes were the traveling salesmen. Grandson John came to his grandfather's home very often as a teenager (the distance was only six miles from John's home), and went with his uncles on the route. At one time John and my father, Bert, went with Uncle Johannes on the route and they needed to deliver a special fancy cake to a customer with the other goods. John said "Man, I'm getting hungry, I'd sure like to have a biscuit." Uncle Johannes replied, "Why a biscuit, wouldn't you rather have a cake?" So they stopped and lunched on the customer's fancy cake and commented that it was sure good, but as they continued to eat, they were getting an upset stomach, no doubt due to a guilty conscience. They couldn't eat it all so they wrapped it in a box for a later snack. John asked his uncle "What will you tell the customer?" Uncle Johannes replied, "I'm sorry, we forgot your cake, but we will sure bring it tomorrow."

Uncle John recalls going out on delivery first with his Uncle Jan and later with Uncle Johannes at which time Jan was in the bakery. At various times they would go together when the load got too heavy. Jan and Johannes were both very jovial and had hosts of friends. They would urge their father to have Grandson John help them because they were so busy. But John says this was only an excuse so the two boys had more time to "goof off" while he did the work. Johannes was also to do the collecting, but only collected the guilders. He said the cents didn't amount to much anyway.

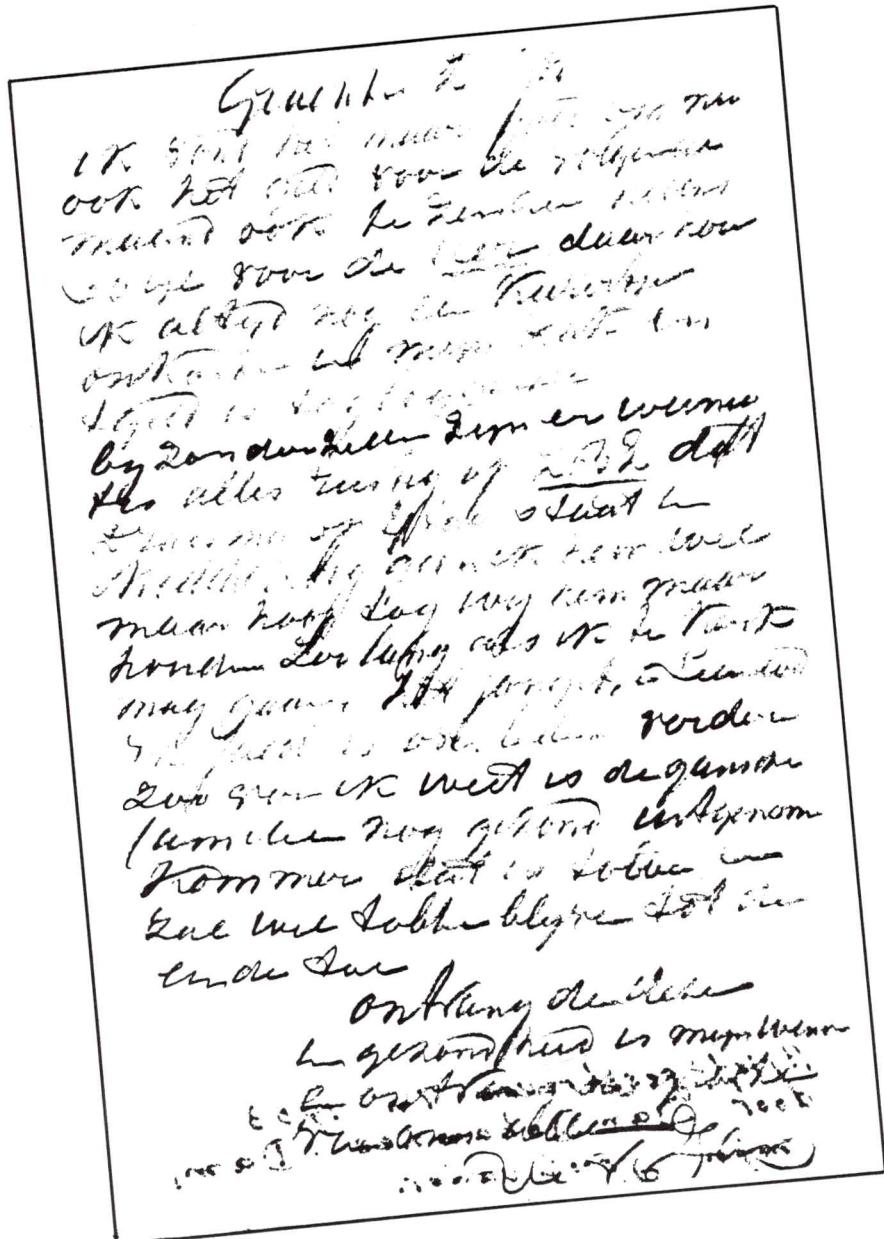
On occasion Jan Johannes Dam would go to the city of Rotterdam. Being a small town man, he dressed accordingly. He would wear his baker's clothes and thongs, and the city people would stare at him, viewing this strange character. Many years later when he told the story of the people of Rotterdam staring at him, he was made aware that it was not the people of Rotterdam who were out of step, but that Jan Dam was a bit odd.

Around the turn of the century (1900) Johannes was sent to school in Oud Bieerland and his father, Jan and mother Hilligje also moved there. This was a disaster for the mother. She was a very heavy person and became so homesick for Zuid Bieerland, that she failed to eat and was physically so weak that the doctor said her only hope of survival was to move back to Zuid Beijerland. So before the school year ended, Jan and Hilligje were back in their old town and son Johannes stayed by his sister for



Backside of Jan J. Dam bakery in Zuid Beijerland (1974)

Copy of letter and translation Jan Johannes Dam wrote to his son when he was attending school.
Written in 1903.



Dear Son Johannes:

I thought it well to send you next month's tuition of 30 guilders as I have the money in hand.

There is no stirring news in our town except that our minister has a call to Middleburg which is nice for him but I hope he stays here as long as I am able to attend church.

The youngest Leendert of brother Jacob died and as far as I know the other members of the family remained healthy.

Kommer (son-in-law) is having problems and no doubt will have them to his dying day.

My wish is that you receive this in good health.

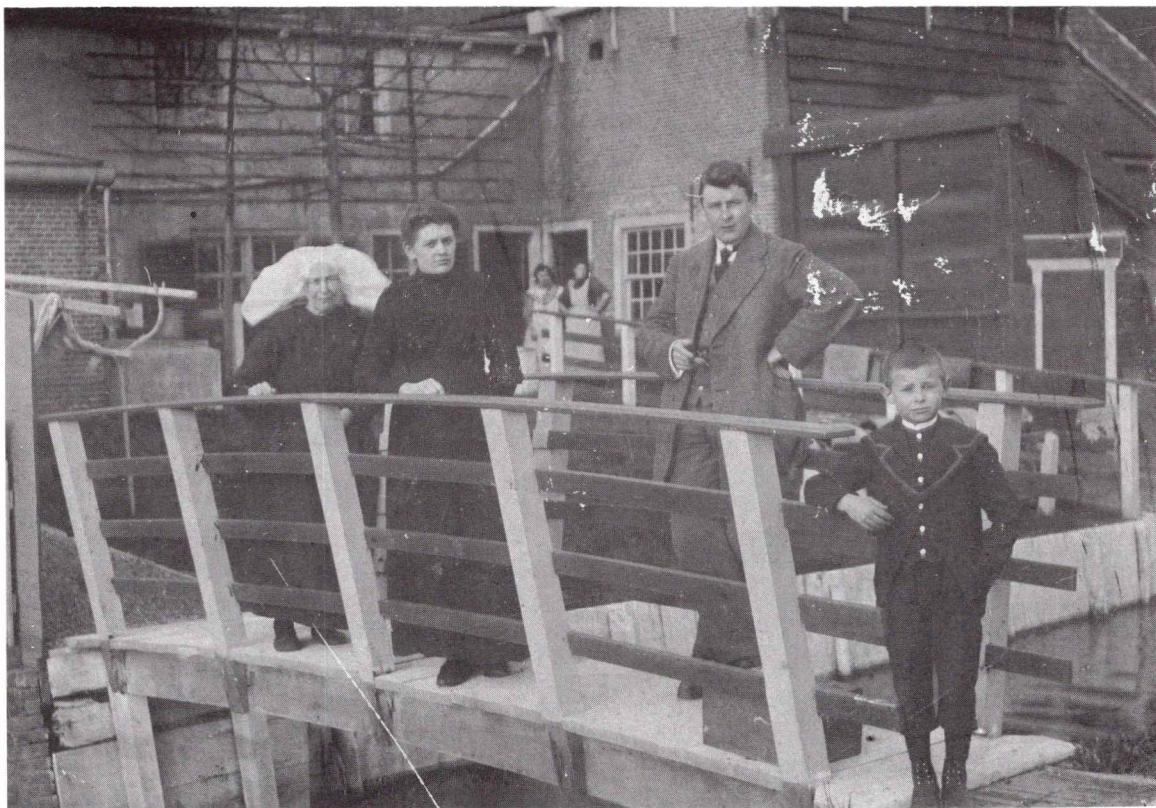
Your father

awhile when he was finishing out his school term. They moved back into their old home which was next to the bakery.

Going back to merchandising baked goods, Jan's eldest son, Arij, was for a time also the delivery man, before the two younger sons took over. While Arij had been very successful in operating the business for his father, his experiences on the road met with failure. It was customary to sell goods on credit which both Arij and his father Jan approved of, as this was a way to help the poor people get staple foods for their family. When time came to collect, the customers always played on Arij's good-natured charitable soul and he would either write off the debt or give more time to pay. Needless to say in due time this delivery business failed because of lack of funds. As stated before, first son John and later joined by son, Johannes, made continued attempts delivering baked goods along the way. John it seemed was a super salesman. He was a personable, young fellow and found having fun

and a good time his first priority. He opened a new found market by selling his baked goods to the various inns and taverns, also on credit. In this way he could join his buddies and friends during working hours as well as other times. A helper by name of Karel Vander Linden was employed as a helper to John. Karel would deliver to the residences and John to the inns and taverns. Later Karel became suspicious about John, thinking he was not properly tending to business most of the time.

About this time a "Gereformeerde" minister by name of Goote moved to Zuid Beijerland, coming from Middleburg. He was a widower and a niece by name of Sara Goote was housekeeper for him. While the Dam family was "Hervormed" with the exception of bachelor Arij and Student Johannes, in a small town everyone is soon acquainted with each other. This girl Sara was a fun-loving person, but not the prettiest girl around. John was always making fun of the saintly housekeeper that was in the village. His father, Jan, and brothers and



Backside of Jan Dam bakery about 1912. L to R: Hilligje Dam, widow of Jan Dam, granddaughter Piaternella Dam Vander Linden, son Johannes and heir apparent grandson John.



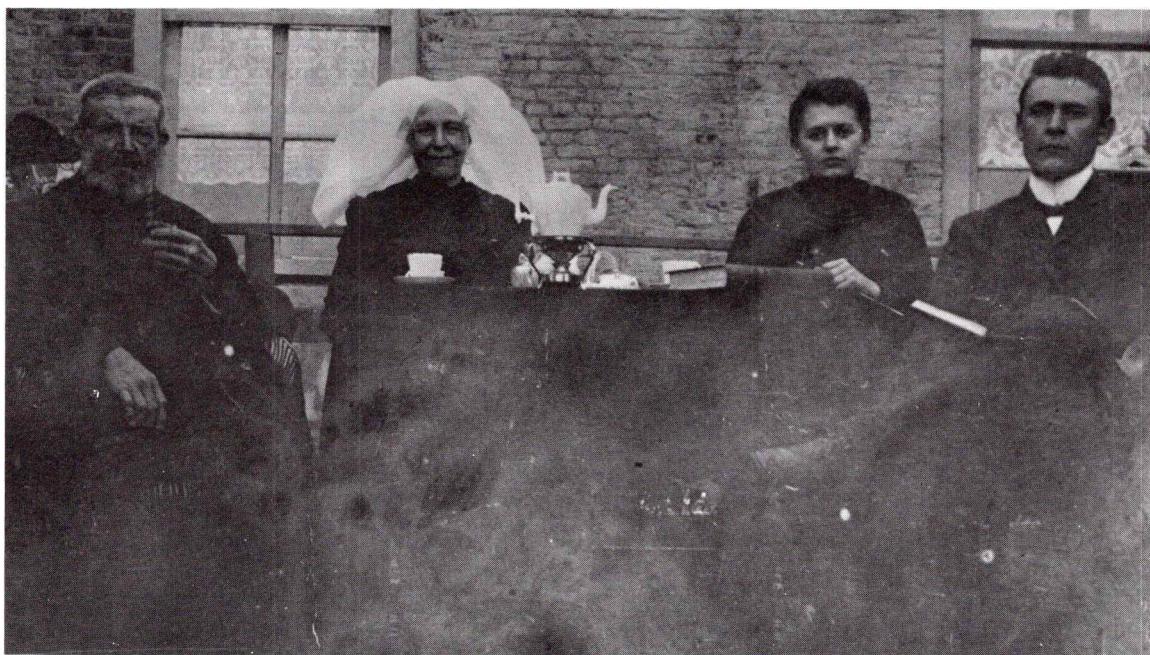
The main street of Zuid Beijerland was on the dike with buildings built on the slope of the dike to have walk in basements to the shops and homes. The building behind the baker's wagon is the bakery operated by Jan Johannes Dam and later his son Arie. In the left center is the "Gereformeerde" church which Arie attended. The steeple in the distance is the "Hervormde" church attended by the Dam family.

sisters teased him that perhaps this girl would some day become his wife. She had visions of security. Little did she realize that John had already accumulated unaccountable debts. Creditors would come to the house to collect while John was working and Sara was astonish-

ed at the situation, which she could not comprehend. After a few years of marriage, perhaps around 1908 or 1909, John and his family moved to The Hague.

At this time Arij again took over the bakery while his father paid all the bills to clear all the accounts. This Arij operated for some time, because the bakery had to stay in the Dam family and John's son was to be groomed for the position (read later story). After this all failed, the bakery was sold to a family by the name of Byl. For many years, Jan Johannes had been plagued with prostrate problems. This was in the days before surgery of this kind. In spite of his problems, he still became an old man of nearly 84 years.

In retrospect, Jan had been very prosperous financially and was well respected in the whole community. His family's lifestyle was far above the norm for the area. In his household were employed maids, seamstresses and gardeners to make living conditions comfortable and pleasant. As financial reverses encountered members of his family, Jan paid all the accumulated debts to outsiders and forgave the financial obligations owed to him from the inside. His principles were sound and well practiced throughout his whole career.



Tea Time at Jan Johannes Dam
L to R: Jan Johannes and wife Hilligje, granddaughter Piaternella and son Johannes.



Jan Johannes Dam

Jan Johannes Dam born in Numansdorp Aug. 30, 1828, baptized Sept. 21, died in Zuid Bierjerland June 2, 1912. Married in Zuidland Aug. 4, 1852 to

Hermina Adriana van Driel born Zuidland Aug. 18, 1828, died in Zuid Bierjerland Mar. 3, 1861.

There were four children: Krijna, Kornelis, Arie and Arie.

1. Krijna born in Zuidland Dec. 2, 1852, died Mar. 8, 1929. Married May 9, 1878 to Kommer de Korver, born Aug. 3, 1849, died Dec. 16, 1916.

Krijna lived in Numansdorp where her husband operated a small grocery store. There were seven children: Cornelis, Hermina, Jan, Janna, Arie, Cornelia and Krijna.

- A. Cornelis Johannis born Aug. 11, 1880 died Sept. 26, 1898.
- B. Hermina Adriana born Dec. 2, 1881, died April 8, 1930. Married Remmert Neutboam, no children.
- C. Jan Johannis born Jan. 16, 1885, died July , 1950
- D. Janna born Mar. 15, 1887, died Mar. 12, 1968. Married Wouter Snijders, seven children.
- E. Arie born Dec. 31, 1888
- F. Cornelia Maria born May 27, 1892,

died Nov. 9, 1918. Married Jan van Genderen, no children.
G. Krijna born Dec. 26, 1893

2. Kornelis (**IX BAABA**) born Zuid Biejerland Oct. 26, 1854, died July, 1915. Married Teuna van Nugteren, born April 24, 1879, died 1880.

Kornelis was a baker in Numansdorp which was formerly owned and operated by his Uncle Jacob. Later this bakery was operated by Kornelis' son, Bastiaan, who sold it and purchased a bakery in Dordrecht where he lived for a long time until his death in approximately 1975.

There were twins born:

- A. Lena born Jan. 19, 1880, died July 27, 1888
- B. Stillborn Jan. 19, 1880

Married Maaike Huisert Oct. 29, 1880, Maaike born Jan. 3, 1854, died Feb. 5, 1918.

There were six children: Jan Johannis, Jan Johannis, Bastiaan, Hermina, Hermina and Maria Jacoba.

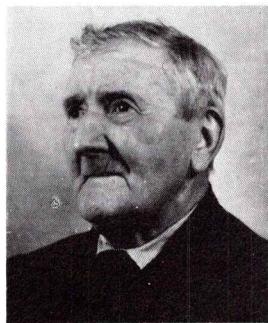
- A. Jan Johannis born Oct. 14, 1882, died Dec. 13, 1882.
- B. Jan Johannis born Sept. 28, 1883, died June 4, 1888
- C. Bastiaan born Feb. 23, 1885 died 197 . Married April 1, 1915, Adriaantje Groeneveld, born Jan. 4, 1892, died Aug. 17, 1972.



Bastiaan Dam and his wife
Adriaantje

- D. Hermina Adriana born Oct. 6, 1887, died May 10, 1888.
- E. Hermina Adriana born Jan. 6, 1890 died 1965. Married Mar. 31, 1915 to Dirk Gozewina Simons, born approximately 1888. One daughter who died young.
- F. Maria Jacoba born in Amsterdam May 6, 1893, died 1967. Married June 26, 1913 to Paulus den Hartegh, born approximately 1891. One son Bastiaantje who died young.

3. Arie born July 13, 1857, died Feb. 22, 1858.
 4. Arie born Jan. 25, 1859 in Zuid Beijerland, died July 16, 1941 in Zuid Beijerland. He was unmarried.



Arie Dam

Arie was a baker in Zuid Beijerland. He was the family adviser when crucial decisions were to be made and a mainstay in the community. After his father's retirement, he operated this family bakery for many years. Marie Verwijs Tielemen, Nelly Dam Vander Linden and John J. Dam worked for him at various times. After the bakery was sold to the Bijl Brothers in 1923, he worked for them several years. Arie had a very disappointing romance in earlier years and he remained unmarried.



Arie Dam funeral procession

Jan Johannes Dam born Aug. 30, 1828, died June 2, 1912. Remarried Oct. 11, 1861 to Hillige van Lugtenburg, born Sept. 19, 1839; died Oct. 6, 1915.

There were 14 children: Neeltje, Hendrik, Elizabeth, Jacob, Elizabeth, Leendert, Neeltje, Jan Johannes, Jan Johannes, Johannes Jan, Janna Johanna, Johanna, Janna Johanna, Jan Johannes, Hilletje, Hilletje, Johannes

1. Neeltje born Dec. 4, 1862, died Apr. 8, 1869
2. Hendrik born Jan. 11, 1864, died Jan. 12, 1890. Married at Zwijndrecht April 14, 1887 to Adriaantje Groenenboom, born Aug. 22, 1864, died Jan. 19, 1943.
 (See Chapter VIII)
3. Elizabeth born Jan. 1, 1864, died June 17, 1865
4. Jacob born Mar. 27, 1866, died Oct. 13, 1936. Married Mar. 20, 1890 to Stientje Groenenboom, born Apr. 3, 1867, died July 6, 1926. They had 18 children.
 (See Chapter IX)
5. Elizabeth born May 27, 1867, died May 18, 1956. Married Oct. 28, 1900 to Eliza Heilema, born Aug. 23, 1856, died May 30, 1921.



Elizabeth Dam Heilema

Elizabeth lived in Oud Beijerland where her husband was a "touwslager" (maker of rope). He was a Freisian, very Calvinistic and stern. Elizabeth evidently contracted arthritis as it was said "she spent her whole life looking down on the floor."

They had four children: Sya, Lourens, Hillege and Jan Johannes.



Sya Hielema, Arie Tielemen and Marie Verwijs Tieleman

- A. Sya Cornelia born Oct. 24, 1901. She is an unmarried, retired schoolteacher living in Baarn.
- B. Lourens Jan Johannes born Nov. 30, 1902. Married Christina Hof. They had four children: Rika, Bets, Hilda and Liza.
- C. Hilligje born Mar. 10, 1904, died 1939. Married Kris Van Dyk. They had two children: Jan and Elizabeth.
- D. Jan Johannes born Aug. 10, 1905, died Apr. 18, 1906.
- 6. Leendert born July 27, 1868, died Dec. 6, 1948. Married Sept. 29, 1893 to Jannetje Langedoen, born Sept. 10, 1867, died July 8, 1956.

They had six children. (See Chapter XI)



Bastiaan Verwys

- 7. Neeltje born Oct. 15, 1869, died July 25, 1909. Married Sept. 21, 1899 to Bastiaan Verwys, born Aug. 24, 1872; died April 17, 1955.



Neeltje Dam Verwys

Neeltje lived in 'sGravendeel, where her husband was a painter. Her daughter, Marie, worked for many years in her grandfather's bakery. She married Arie Teileman, who was a blacksmith in Zuid Beijerland. She retired and moved to Baarn. Many years she spent the winters in Spain. After her husband's death, she spent a summer in the U.S.A. visiting with relatives.

They had four children: Maria, Jan Johannes, Hilletje and Elizabeth.

- A. Maria born Nov. 30, 1900, died Mar. 6, 1980. Married June 19, 1924 to Arie Tielemen, born Oct. 13, 1894, died June 20, 1971. No children.
- B. Jan Johannes born July 7, 1902. Married July 18, 1929 to Cornelia Kuip, born Aug. 21, 1904. They had one daughter: Neeltje.
- C. Hilletje born Aug. 18, 1905. Married to Jacob Kwakernaat July 20, 1927, born June 26, 1903, died Aug. 30, 1973. They had three children:
 - 1. Jacob born Dec. 21, 1927
 - 2. Bastiaan born Aug. 11, 1932
 - 3. Neeltje born Jan. 15, 1935
- D. Elizabeth born Sept. 19, 1908. Married Nov. 6, 1935 to Piet Leeuwenburg, born June 13, 1908, died Jan. 13, 1957. They had one daughter:
 - 1. Neeltje, born Nov. 11, 1937 or 1938
- 8. Jan Johannes born Jan. 29, 1872, died May 27, 1872
- 9. Jan Johannes born April 5, 1873, died April 22, 1873
- 10. Johannes Jan born April 5, 1873, died July 23, 1873
- 11. Janna Johanna born July 6, 1874 died Jan. 9, 1875

12. Johanna born April 6, 1875, died April 8, 1875
13. Janna Johanna born April 9, 1876, died May 20, 1931. Married May 18, 1899 to Frans Jacob Villerius, born Aug. 14, 1872, died Jan. 18, 1942.
They had three children. (See Chapter XII)
14. Jan Johannes born Aug. 26, 1877, died Dec. 31, 1932. Married Sara Goote on April 17, 1901, born Sept. 19, 1873, died Jan. 13, 1963
They had 12 children. (See Chapter XIII)
15. Hilligje born July 20, 1878, died Aug. 10, 1878
16. Hilligje born Dec. 20, 1879, died July 8, 1973. Married April 23, 1908 to Aart



Hilligje Dam Maaskant and Aart Maaskant with their two daughters and granddaughter

Maaskant, born Dec. 16, 1871, died Jan. 18, 1937.

Hilligje lived in Zwijndrecht where her husband was a baker specializing in "banket". Her husband was known as a good, likable person who was severely henpecked. As Solomon says, "It is better to live in the corner of a rooftop than with a brawling woman in a wide house," so her husband lived upstairs and she downstairs and they never lived together.

They had three children: Klaartje, Hilligje and Janna.

- A. Klaartje Hilligje born Sept. 3, 1910, died Feb. 6, 1967. Married Mar. 3, 1933 to Arie Nugteren, born Sept. 23, 1904. They had four children: Clara Hilda, Hilda Clara, Arie and Gretha.
- B. Hilligje Klaartje born Feb. 16, 1912, died Sept. 30, 1977. Married Jan. 21, 1932 to Dirk den Hoed, born Nov. 15, 1910, died Dec. 16, 1972. They had five children: Aart Dirk, Jacob Arie, Cornelia, Hilda Clara, Bartje Cornelia.
- C. Janna Johanna born June 29, 1914, died Mar. 15, 1915.
17. Johannes born Feb. 8, 1883, died Nov. 6, 1970. Married Aug. 4, 1915 to Neeltje Alida Riemer, born ap. 1890, died Oct. 12, 1917. They had three children: Gretha, Jan Johannes and Geerling. See Chapter XIV.

Van Lugtenburg Ancestral Family Tree

This family tree is here recorded as background history of Mrs. Jan (Hilligje Lugtenburg) Dam. You will note that the first generation does not yet use a surname. The only identification is Pancras son of Maerten. His wife Neeltje, daughter of Cornelis, evidently had a surname or came from a village by the name of Luchtenburgh and this was then obviously adopted as the surname. Also note how the name spelling changed from the older generation to the younger.

Here below follows the ancestral tree of Mrs. Jan Johannes Dam. NOTE: Our thanks to Jam Verhoeven of Zuid Beijerland for furnishing us with this information.

- I. Pancras Maertensz married to Neeltje Cornelis dr. van Luchtenburgh, died before 1660. They lived on the West Dike below Mijnsheerenland.
- II. Cornelis Pancras zoon van Luchtenburgh died Mijnsheerenland, Nov., 1660. Married to Maritgen van der Koy.
- III. Cornelis van Luchtenburgh. Married in Zuid-Beijerland Jan. 18, 1682 to Lizsbeth van Sijdervelt born June 24, 1643, died Jan. 24, 1720.
- IV. Cornelis van Luchtenburgh born Dec. 27, 1682, died before 1745. Married May 1, 1714 to Annigje van Leen born in 's-Gravendeel, died Dec. 30, 1754. Daughter of Hendrik van Leen and Ingetje Ariensdr van de Steen.
- V. Hendrik van Lugtenburg, born May 29, 1718, died Mar. 2, 1773. Married Jan. 13, 1749 to Hilligje van Leen, born in 's-Gravendeel, died Sept. 24, 1795, daughter of Dirk van Leen.
- VI. Cornelis van Lugtenburg, born Dec. 26,

1759, died June 26, 1819. Married May 9, 1797 to Johanna van Brakel, born Aug. 28, 1770; died Oct. 17, 1801. Daughter of Cornelis van Brakel and Johanna van Brakel.

VII. Hendrik van Lugtenburg Cornzn, farmer, born Apr. 13, 1801; died Apr. 13, 1857. Married at Zuid Beijerland June 13, 1823 to Neeltje Verhulp, born July 23, 1806; died Nov. 12, 1884. Daughter of Cornelis Verhulp Teuniszn and Maria van der Linden Joh, dr.

They lived on the farm Oemsteyn on the Schoutsdijk at Zuid-Beijerland. Their children:

1. Cornelis born Dec. 16, 1823; died May 3, 1824.
2. Cornelis born Jan. 28, 1825, farmer. Married to Maria Bijl May 17, 1867.
3. Maria born Nov. 15, 1826. Married to Arie Schelling, farmer who was born in Zuid-Beijerland about 1814.
4. Johanna, born Oct. 4, 1828. Married to Leendert Kappetein, farmer, July 6, 1849.
5. Hendrik, born Jan. 28, 1830; died Feb. 5, 1830.
6. Johannes born Jan. 28, 1830; died May 3, 1830.
7. Aaaltje born Dec. 23, 1830. Married Dec. 1, 1854 to Cornelis van Dijk, born 1826.
8. Hendrik born Jan. 22, 1833. Married Nov. 5, 1858 to Annetje Lijntje Baayen born Oct. 25, 1839. He was a farmer. They had 13 children and moved to Rotterdam in 1885.
9. Neeltje born April 6, 1835. Married May 29, 1857 to Willem Hoogwerf born about 1834.
10. Hillege born May 29, 1836; died Sept. 21, 1836.

11. Hilligje born Aug. 22, 1837; died Sept. 8, 1837.

12. Jannigje born Aug. 22, 1837; died Sept. 8, 1837.

13. **Hilligje** born Sept. 18, 1839. Married Oct. 11, 1861 to **Jan Johannis Dam**. born Aug. 30, 1828 in Numansdorp. He was a baker.

14. Jannigje born Dec. 30, 1840. Married Aug. 17, 1866 to Joost Pieter Baayen born 1836.

15. Teunis born Feb. 3, 1842; died Mar. 3, 1842.

16. Teunis born Apr. 8, 1843; died June 18, 1847.

17. Johannes born Sept. 14, 1844, farmer, as a bachelor he moved to Piershil on May 4, 1876.

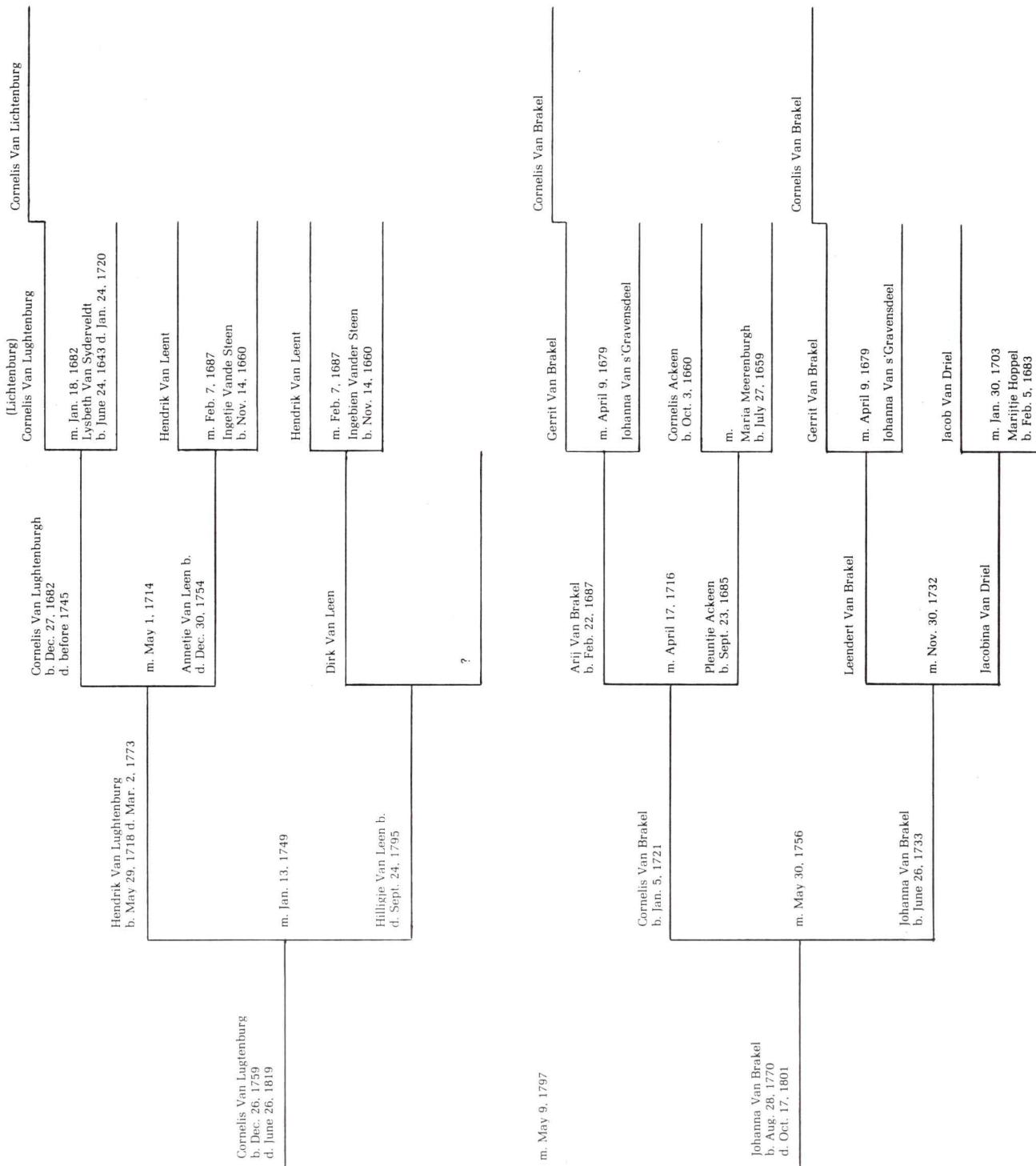
18. Pieter born Feb. 1, 1846; died June 1, 1847.

19. Adriana born Aug. 5, 1847. Married Apr. 12, 1866 to Bastiaan van der Wilt, baker born in Klaaswaal about 1845 son of Willem van der Wilt and Magdalene van Ree.

20. Annigje born July 4, 1849; died Jan. 3, 1926. Married Dec. 23, 1885 to Izaak Huisert born Numansdorp Feb. 21, 1826; died Numansdorp Oct. 23, 1905, farmer son of Adrianus Huisert Bzn and Sara van Bochove Aartsd.

21. Cornelia born July 4, 1849. Married Gysbertus Groenenboom.

The Family Tree is outlined on the following page.



Chapter VIII

Hendrik Dam and his descendants



Hendrik Dam and Adriaantje Groenenboom

Hendrik Dam

Hendrik Dam born Jan. 11, 1864, died Jan. 12, 1890. Married April 15, 1887 to Adriaantje Groenenboom, born Aug. 22, 1864, died Jan. 19, 1943. They had two children:

1. Jan Johannes Dam born Jan. 4, 1888, died Oct. 12, 1955, unmarried.
2. Piaternella Dam born Nov. 16, 1889, died Jan. 7, 1951. Married Feb. 25, 1915 to Carl Vander Linden, born May 29, 1889, died May 31, 1943.

Hendrik Dam was baker in Zuid Biejerland. He was afflicted with T.B. which was very

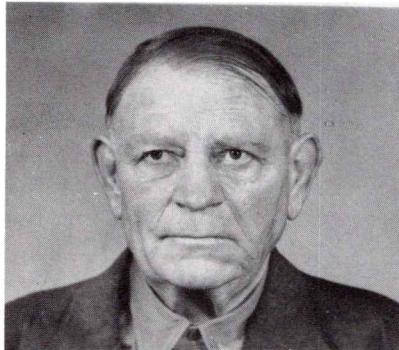
prevalent in the low lying areas at that time. In the winter of 1890 he contracted pneumonia and died on January 12, leaving a two-year-old son, Jan and a two-month-old daughter, Piaternella.

The mother being of nervous disposition was in deep bereavement in the loss of her young husband and unable to care for her two children. Her sister, Stientje, was soon to be married to Hendrik's brother, Jacob, and by mutual understanding, they were going to care for and raise Jan. The baby Piaternella went to live with her grandfather, J. J. Dam in Zuid Biejerland where she was raised in the bakery and came to America in 1913.

It is not known who took care of Piaternella as the girls of the household were married and the grandmother was not too fond of children anymore.

Jan Johannes Dam-Hendrikzon
Jan. 4, 1888 -
Oct. 12, 1955, unmarried.

Born in Holland, having lost his father at the age of two years, he spent his boyhood in the home of his uncle and aunt Jacob and Stientje Dam. As a young man he immigrated to America. He settled in the Leighton, Iowa area where his Grandfather Groenenboom and family had been living for a period of time. He worked as a farm hand for John (Hannes) Groenenboom, where he soon made acquaintance with the neighbors. Some of these were of Dutch descent and many others were of "Old American Stock." In the course of time, Jan associated with a crew of "ditchers" — men



Jan Johannes Dam

who went from farm to farm to lay drain tile in the fields. They did considerable work in the Mitchellville area, which is approximately forty miles from Pella, and in those days pretty much removed from Dutch culture as it was preserved in the Pella and Leighton areas. Jan, being a good mixer, more and more developed a wanderlust, and eventually found his way to the West Coast where he worked in lumber camps in California and Oregon.

In the depression days of the early thirties, high wages were replaced with unemployment, so Jan decided to go back to Iowa to live with his sister, Nelly and family. In his travel to Iowa from the West Coast, he managed to be in the places where Franklin Delano Roosevelt was campaigning for President. Jan became an ardent New Dealer. He managed to shake hands with F.D.R. three times and was convinced that Roosevelt considered him an acquaintance.

After Roosevelt was in office a short time, Jan firmly believing that better times were coming, decided to go back West. So in the night without any good-byes to his sister and family he disappeared. Later he was contacted and found to be living in Sacramento, California, a state that he had come to love and where he wanted to be. It is there that he died on October 12, 1955, in a comfortable cabin which was his home. In this cabin he had all his worldly goods, including an envelope containing his life savings, which were ample to provide a good burial. Jan had been friends with all kinds of people numbering in the hundreds, but in death he was alone. His funeral was attended by a hired preacher, a hired soloist and the person-

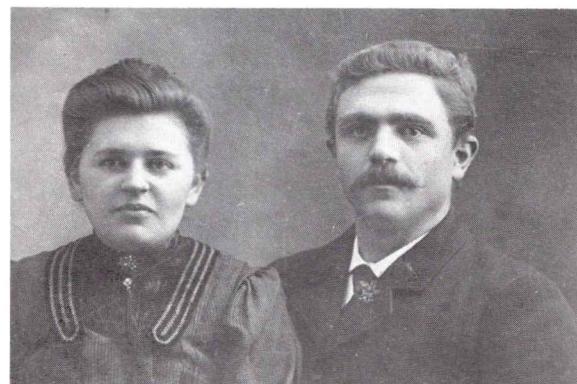
nel of the funeral home that provided the facilities.

Piaternella Dam

Nov. 16, 1889 -

Jan. 7, 1951

Nelly never knew her father, Hendrick Dam, as he died when she was only two months old. She spent her entire childhood and adolescence in the home of her grandparents, J.J. Dam, who had a bakery and store in Zuid Beijerland, Holland. All of her life she cherished fond memories of her Grandfather "Opa" Dam who was almost like a mother and father to her, as well as Uncle Arie Dam, who never married and lived in the parental home.



Piaternella Dam and Carl Vander Linden

As Nelly grew up, she clerked in the store which was the front of the bakery. It was here that she met her future husband, Carl Vander Linden, who came to work for "Opa" Dam as a baker's hand. After they became engaged to be married, they decided to immigrate to America. Carl went ahead and worked as a farm hand for a couple of years. As Nelly had been working as clerk in the bakery for her "Opa" Dam, she and the family felt obligated to have her care for him in his old age which she did. Then she wished to go to America to marry her fiance. Her family in Holland suppressed her and forced her to stay, which adversely affected her health. Uncle Arie then became instrumental in clearing the way for her to come to America in the winter of 1913-1914. She worked as a hired girl for one year and on February 25, 1915 they were married and set-

tled southwest of Eddyville. After living in the Eddyville and Oskaloosa areas, they moved to the Groenenboom farm north of Leighton where the children spent their childhood. In 1931 they moved to the Peoria area which the family considers home. Nelly felt very much at home in the Peoria Christian Reformed Church, where the Dutch language was still spoken and the people's lives were strongly influenced by the Dutch culture. It was at Peoria that she lost and buried her husband at the early age of 54, a loss from which she never really recovered.

During her widowhood, Nelly spent many hours putting together food packages and sending them to her relatives in Holland who were in dire straits after World War II. She was never in robust health and after about six months of illness, on January 7, 1951 she died and was buried beside her husband who had preceded her by just seven years.

2. Piaternella Dam born Nov. 16, 1889; died Jan. 7, 1951. Married Feb. 25, 1915 to Carl Vander Linden, born May 29, 1889, died May 31, 1943. They had seven children:
 - A. Catherine born Jan. 2, 1916 (4832 Marlette Ave. S.E., Grand Rapids, Mich). Married Feb. 16, 1939 to Herman A. De Jong born June 22, 1908. They had four children:



Herman and Catherine Vander Linden De Jong with children

1. Arlene C. born Dec. 11, 1939. Married June 22, 1962 to Allen O. Vander Weij. They had one child:
 - a. Landa J. born May 18, 1963.

- Divorced 1966. Remarried Aug. 27, 1966 to Jerome H. Nichols born June 19, 1940. They had two children:
 - a. John J. born July 7, 1967
 - b. Robert M. born May 29, 1969.
2. Patricia J. born Mar. 28, 1941, unmarried
3. Marion J. born June 4, 1943. Married Nov. 1, 1963 to Linda J. Van Druinen, born Aug. 6, 1944. They had four children:
 - a. Ann M. born July 28, 1964
 - b. Amy L. born Mar. 10, 1966
 - c. Beth R. born May 1, 1968 died May 1, 1968
 - d. Matthew B. born Feb. 15, 1971
4. Rosalie A. born Oct. 5, 1945. Married Mar. 28, 1969 to Kenneth L. Vander Ark, born June 21, 1943. They had two children:
 - a. Heather born Aug. 2, 1974
 - b. Benjamin C. born Aug. 29, 1977
- B. Henry born Mar. 14, 1917; died Sept. 9, 1972 (Farmer - Pella, Iowa). Married Dec. 29, 1942 to Irene J. De Jong, born Feb. 1, 1916. They had four children:



Henry and Irene De Jong Vander Linden with children

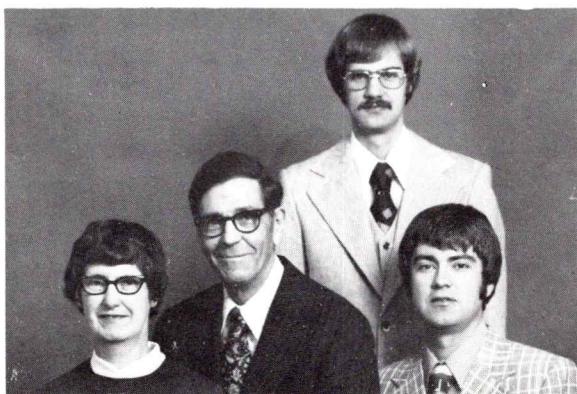
1. Ruth A. born Feb. 14, 1944. Married July 1, 1970 to Gerrit Bosch, born May 30, 1946. They had two children:
 - a. Matthew Ryan born May 16, 1975
 - b. Heather Lynn born Oct. 14, 1977
2. Ronald J. born Nov. 5, 1946. Married Midge, born Dec. 1, 1952. They had one child:
 - a. Curtis James born Feb. 18, 1975
3. Carl W. born Sept. 8, 1949
4. Gregory P. born Sept. 26, 1952

C. Cornie born June 16, 1919 (Farmer - Pella, Iowa). Married May 28, 1952 to Tracy Huyser, born May 30. They had four children:



Cornie and Tracy Huyser Vander Linden with children and grandchildren

1. Nancy L. born April 19, 1953. Married June 14, 1974 to Jerry L. Van Wyk, born Nov. 10, 1948. They had three children:
 - a. Jeremy Cornelis born Jan. 11, 1976
 - b. Nicole Dawn born Oct. 28, 1977
 - c. Jyme William born Sept. 2, 1979
2. Kenneth W. born July 29, 1955. Married Feb. 21, 1975 to Pam Veldhuis born May 27, 1956. They had one child:
 - a. Danielle Lyne born Feb. 21, 1980
3. Lois A. born May 21, 1959
4. Betty J. born Jan. 6, 1962
- D. Andrew born Aug. 28, 1921 (Works at Vermeer Mfg. - Pella, Iowa). Married June 24, 1949 to Junella Grandia, born Aug. 7, 1925. They had two sons:



Andrew and Junella Grandia Vander Linden and sons

1. Stanley E. born Sept. 7, 1950. Married Sept. 16, 1972 to Marsha Hewlett born Feb. 16, 1950. No children.
2. Howard L. born Nov. 29, 1953

E. Marion born Feb. 19, 1924 (Farmer - New Sharon, Iowa). Married March 11, 1950 to Marilyn De Young born April 1, 1930. They had six children:



Marion and Marilyn De Young Vander Linden and family

1. Michael B. born April 11, 1951. Married Oct. 24, 1975 to Delrae Petrys born May 27, 1954.
2. Merry A. born Sept. 19, 1952
3. Marlys E. born Sept. 26, 1953
4. Marshall J. born April 30, 1958
5. Melanie A. born July 7, 1960
6. Mark A. born Sept. 21, 1961
- F. Jennie born May 25, 1926 (13215 63 St., Edmonton, Alberta, Canada). Married June 2, 1960 to Bert Wilting born Mar. 19. They had two sons.
 1. Berend J. born Feb. 19, 1962
 2. Carl D. born Nov. 22, 1963
- G. Stella born July 29, 1929 (2801 State Road 580, Clearwater, Florida). Married Oct. 8, 1961 to William Halstedt born April 20, 1929. No children.



Bert and Jennie Vander Linden Wilting and sons



William and Stella Vander Linden Halstedt

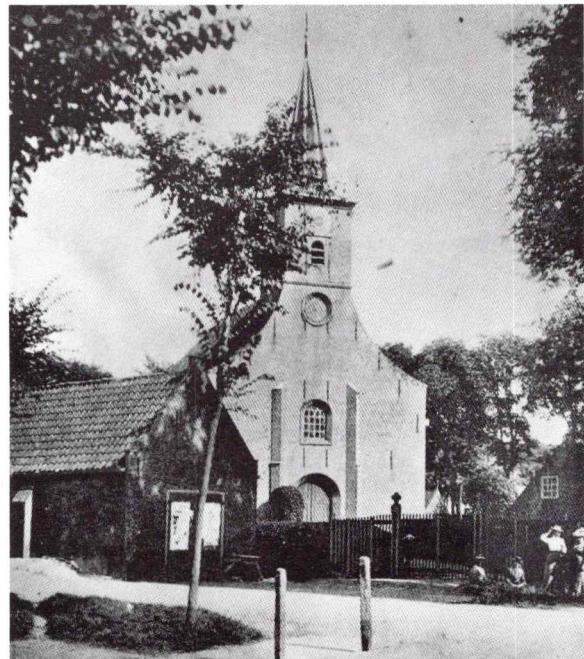
Chapter IX

Jacob Dam, a man of vision

The Civil War had ended and Andrew Johnson was President of the United States when Jacob Dam was born on March 27, 1866 in Zuid Biejerland. Jacob was raised in an orderly household where there was abundant activity. His oldest sister was fourteen years old when he was born and his youngest brother came along seventeen years later. He learned the baker's trade from his father and three older brothers, who were also bakers, and was instrumental in teaching his three younger brothers the art of making baked goods after he mastered the trade.

Very little is known of Jacob's life before his marriage. It has not been possible to extract any information from any of his children and it is quite possible that they did not know any history either. Uncle John has remarked that anytime anyone asked his father about the past or whether people in another town by the same name were related, his reply was "Yes, it is some relation, but never mind the past, look what is lying ahead in the future." It is quite possible that it was below the dignity of Jacob to admit that he had a drunken grandfather who had squandered away a tidy business and inheritance of several generations past and was ashamed of it.

Now the time was fast approaching for Jacob to find a wife and then establish a business, or vice versa. But where? His mother, like Rebecca of old, was quite concerned he should get the right girl for his life's partner so she arranged for her sister's stepdaughter, Stientje, to be considered. This had also been arranged when Jacob's older brother, Hendrik, married her sister's oldest stepdaughter. (See Groenenboom book for pedigrees).



Hervormde Kerk in Nieuw Beijerland which the Jacob Dam family attended

Jacob's brother, Hendrik, died on January 12, 1890. On February 13, 1890 Jacob moved to Nieuwe Biejerland where he purchased the bakery from his brother's widow and girlfriend's sister. It was difficult for Jacob to purchase the business as he had only a limited amount of cash and the widow needed money to provide for her two fatherless children. So what was he to do? There was hope. Jacob had an aunt, a sister of his mother, who was married to a rich, retired farmer who lived in Numansdorp. (This Tante Eintje, who was married to Isaac Huyser was also a sister of the stepmother of Jacob's girlfriend, Stientje Groenenboom and was later known as the rich



House on extreme left was home of Jacob Dam. Bakery was in the rear of building.

aunt.) She loaned him the money for the purchase of the business. All business was done in cash as there were no banks operating in this area. When money was to be paid back or more to be loaned the "yeast peddler" who came twice a week would transport the cash money back and forth as necessary. It also happened at various times that Jacob would borrow money from his older brother "Case" who had a bakery in Numansdorp using the same delivery procedures.

Thus on the 20th of March, 1890 Jacob married his girlfriend, Stientje, and settled in this little village of Nieuwe Biejerland along the dike by the river Spui. His younger brother, Johannes said of Jacob, "He is ambitious and a hard worker." Also it is noted they were religiously oriented for they immediately heeded the Biblical command to "be fruitful and multiply" when four months later they became parents of their firstborn son. In addition they had promised Stientje's widowed sister they would raise their two-year-old fatherless son, who became known as "Big John" being the older one in the family. So Jacob established his business as local baker and his family increased one by one; sometimes two by two, and the family was well oriented in this village.

A disastrous fire destroyed the bakery and their attached home at the turn of the century, (1899) which was a terrible blow to this young, growing and industrious family. The fire was caused by a very innocent, young boy in the neighborhood. This young lad had made a candleholder out of a sugar beet and placed a candle in it. He then set it in a nice place on a window sill and lit the candle so it would glow at night. The wind blew and caught some dry straw which blew onto the window sill which then caught fire. This being an old house, whose windows did not close the best, had a piece of lace curtain caught between the window. This then got ablaze and started the house on fire. Stientje and her children fled to safety and were not injured.

Jacob was on the bread route with his delivery cart. A neighbor went by bicycle to meet him and report the disastrous happening. Jacob's initial comment was "How are my wife and children? Are they safe?" to which the messenger replied, "Yes sir, they are all safe." Jacob then answered, "Let it burn" and proceeded to finish his bread route. To Jacob and Stientje this fire was a blessing in disguise. The home was very old and small and with the promise of an ever increasing family, more living space was needed. They carried more than suf-

ficient fire insurance on their home. This money was no problem so temporary quarters were immediately constructed across the street and upon completion there, a new home and bakery was erected on the same location as the old one.

Jacob's good friend, a Mr. Simons (grandfather of Leonard Simons of Leighton) also a local baker, did much of the baking for Jacob's customers until everybody became readjusted to the situation.

This house/bakery combination was quite small by current standards. The front was used for a store where baked goods were sold and in the back was the bakery itself. In the center was the living quarters which had small rooms and not too many. Upstairs were two bedrooms and downstairs beds were placed in the walls where at night they were hinged down into the room. Maneuverable space would be likened unto a current mobile home or trailer.

Now you may wonder what happened to the young lad who set the candle on the window ledge. Everything was forgiven and all were

thankful that the fire was not more disastrous than it had been. Shortly after the fire, one of Jacob and Stientje's boys were playing along the small but deep creek nearby when the boy slipped in and was not able to get out and bound to drown. The mother of the boy who set the candle in the window passed by and saw the desperate drowning lad. She, being a good swimmer and familiar with water, jumped in the creek and saved the lad from drowning. So it now seemed all was vindicated. The drowning boy was Jacob's son, Bert.

Jacob was a good manager as well as a hard worker. He looked into the future as has been stated before. When his daughter, Nellie, was born on January 1, 1895, he reported it as December 31, 1894 so Nellie could go to school a year earlier and help her mother care for the anticipated clan sooner when she was through school. As the family increased, so did the needs, so Jacob purchased a piece of ground on the other side of the village where they raised vegetables and fruits for the family and to sell. The children were kept busy in this garden producing foodstuffs much to their dislike, while father and mother were also being busy producing and multiplying.



Jacob Dam Family

Back row: Bert, Jacob, Stientje, John, Helen. Front row: Nellie, Stella, Peter, Leendert, Jacob, Henry and Joe (1907)



A "Hittekar" pony cart similar to one which Jacob Dam used

Bakery deliveries were first made by dog cart and as the business grew, the weight got too heavy for a single dog cart. Some deliveries in the area were made with a three-dog cart, but Jacob was looking ahead and purchased a Russian pony which they called a "hit." This pony was purchased from a horse dealer in Oud Bieerland and could be used for a much larger cart. So the pony was delivered and Jacob and his sons, being ignorant of the fact that an animal needed training for such work, also acquired some much needed experience to train this pony to pull the cart. This, with a great deal of perseverance fell in line nicely. The pony was kept by the vegetable garden. Business kept increasing and Jacob was not yet ready to buy another pony, but decided to keep this one busy longer. So instead of coming back home at midday to feed the animal the conventional way, Jacob decided a quick energy food would be more practical, if he could carry it along on the cart. He devised a rye bread loaf for horses in which very little yeast was used. The dough was put in a vat and kneaded by walking through it barefooted. Another man

would spade it to one end and keep piling it there while the other one walked his way through the stuff. It was then baked in loaves five inches square and 18 inches long. So that it would not be sold for human consumption, it had to be stamped with the baker's name. This proved to be very successful for his business. His wife was not neglected while he was caring for his business. She now had a seamstress and housekeeper, a general maid and a scrub-woman who came in to perform their various duties.

One day Jacob and Stientje went to Rotterdam. There he saw himself in a full length mirror and was astounded how old he looked. Surely he could not be as old as he appeared in the mirror. Immediately he hired more help for the bakery. As it was, Jacob had been working from early Friday morning straight through to Saturday night. On several occasions he was so "zonked out" on Sunday that a doctor had to come to wake him up.

Stientje's family had immigrated to America in 1901. Two sisters and two brothers had left several years prior to her parents. She had expressed several times a desire to move to America. After sixteen pregnancies and eighteen children, it became very evident that they had done their share in "replenishing the earth" and that it was not for them to do it alone. Jacob did not look askance at this change as he loved to work in his garden and hoped to perhaps be able to till the soil as a pioneer in America. And so, as Abraham and Sara looked for the promised land in days of yore, Jacob and Stientje planned for a land of promise that might have a brighter future for their nine sons and three daughters. They felt it would be difficult to set them all up in business in Holland especially if they all chose to become bakers. Jacob's ancestors already had a monopoly on windmills in Southern Holland where most of the old patriarch's kinfolks became established. So now, as several of his cousins and brothers were bakers, the future of overfeeding the Dutchmen was indeed overwhelming. While Jacob was now well off financially, owning a good business and several houses as income properties, he did realize the horrendous undertaking it would be to set up these children in business so preparations were made to study an exodus to America.

The Spearhead

Now Jacob, like Moses, was a careful planner and did not care to undertake this project immediately. He sent out a Joshua and Caleb to spy out the land and bring back a report.

In the spring of 1909 son John went to America to see how he would like it. He arrived at his Grandfather Groenenboom on the farm north of Leighton and worked on the farm in this area. How did he like it here? He did not. Life was too lonesome and he would have crawled back to Holland on his hands and knees had not the ocean been there as a barrier.

The Kidnapping

Stientje's sister, Adriaantje, widow of Jacob's brother Hendrik had been doing household work for her deceased husband's "Oome Leendert" who lived at Hekelingen. Here she met a man by name of Willem Vande Velde whom she married. Jaantje was still having some nervous problems, caused by the early passing of her husband and her parents' immigration to America. On occasion she would spend a few days at the home of her sister, Stientje. So in the spring of 1910 she had come to visit her sister in Nieuw Bieerland when son Bert was to leave for America. She unmercifully pled to have her brother-in-law Jacob make arrangements so she could go to see her parents in America and go along with Bert, which she did. Before the boat left shore she mailed a letter to her husband to tell him the news that she was going to her parents in America. When Vande Velde received the letter, he came to see Jacob and Stientje, exceedingly upset and terribly angry that his wife had been kidnapped and that her sister and his brother-in-law had conspired to do this. It took some doing to calm down Vande Velde and when he was assured by Jacob that he would personally get her if she did not return voluntarily, he went back home and she returned later that year with settled nerves and better health after having seen her parents.

The Spies Gather

So Bert came to the states, a lad of 17, and not knowing a word of English. He came by boat

to New York where he got involved with some adventurous fellows which resulted in his losing most of his money. He traveled by train to Chicago and then Leighton. Here on a very warm spring day he arrived at the Leighton depot. He was to go to his Grandfather Groenenboom also and meet his brother, John, who lived six miles to the northwest. So Bert with his satchel and all other earthly belongings in hand, started out on foot to his new home. The weather being hot and sultry made it almost unbearable. He walked a short distance, sat down on his satchel to rest while the sweat was pouring in increasingly larger pools. Bert had commented that after every rain he can go to that road and see the pools of sweat still standing there. In due time Bert arrived at his maternal grandfather and joined his brother John. It had been John's intention to go back to Holland if he and Bert did not bring a favorable report. What report these boys sent back is not known, but John has said that "my folks never had any intention of listening to advice from Bert and me. It is not the characteristic of a Dutchman to listen to advice from his children. The purpose of us coming here obviously was not to report, but to familiarize ourselves with the language and environment because the family is coming and we need your help."

While John and Bert were supposedly spying and investigating the practicality of moving the parental clan to America, Jacob was making plans in Holland to sell his bakery. His brother, Leendert, lived a short distance from here in Zuidzyde. He wished to purchase the bakery but had the problem of being allergic to flour. This problem was solved when Karel Vander Linden who had been working as baker for Jan Johannes Dam in Zuid Bieerland agreed to teach the trade to the sons of Leendert who then took over this establishment. Jacob also disposed of his other holdings which he sold totally for a sum of \$4,000 American dollars which was a tidy sum for those days. Of this \$2400.00 was spent getting the whole family moved over and located in America near Pella.

The Exodus

It took months of preparation to move such a large family and its belongings overseas to a new land. There were ten children to take

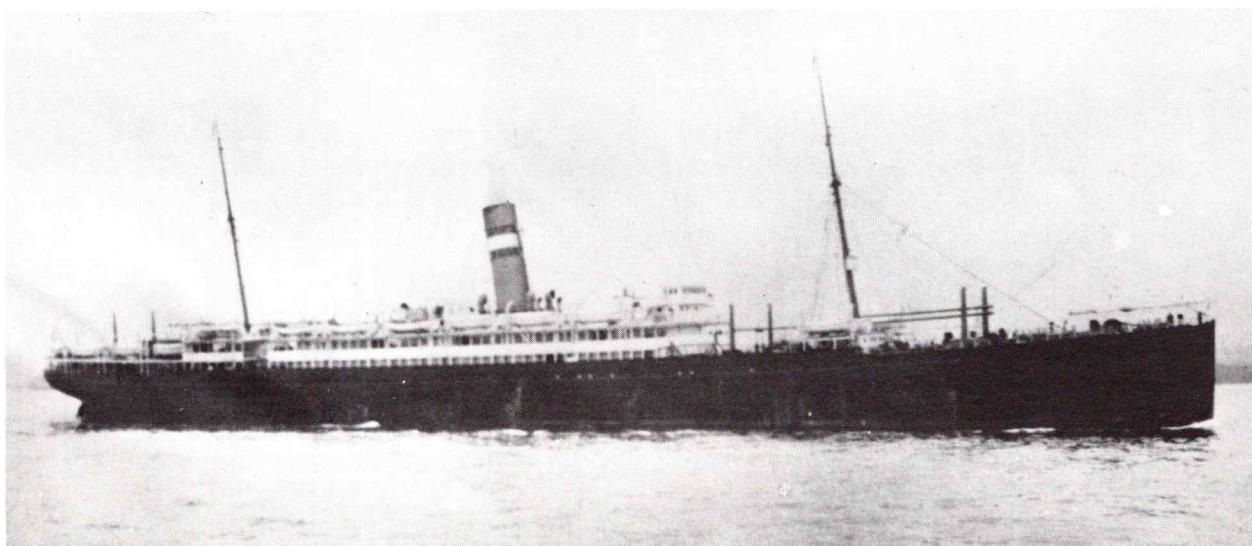
along. To accompany them was Jacob's brother, Jan, who had a family of several children living in The Hague. As previously mentioned, Jan had the problem of indulging in inebriating spirits which were easily obtainable in Holland. This being much more difficult to obtain in America and Jan wanting to reestablish himself securely, came along with the immigration of Jacob and his household. Thus with a great deal of organization, the whole clan was ready for departure and they all got aboard the tram (street car) which was to take them to Rotterdam to board the ship for America. The tram started the exodus and halt — someone was missing, the baby was not on board! In the busyness and tumult the baby (Arie) was left at a neighbor to be cared for, and in all the excitement, everyone was on board but the baby. The tram waited and soon the neighbor lady came with Arie to join the family. They set sail on April 8, 1911 on the ship Ryndam.

The next and biggest concern for Jacob was yet to come. Many immigrants had unbeknown to themselves, T.B. and other respiratory diseases and could not pass through quarantine on Ellis Island in New York. If anyone of this clan showed any sign of T.B. they would all be rejected and sent back to Holland. These were anxious times, because this could be very costly and interruptive to a lifetime ambition.

Good fortune prevailed and all passed with a good clean bill of health at the quarantine station. What a relief this was for Jacob and Stientje. Of the baggage the family brought along, only the necessities for family housekeeping were included. No jewelry or family heirlooms were ever mentioned as having been brought over from Holland. The fancy Dutch dress and hat of Stientje with the golden curls were all left behind. It can be truthfully said that this family was not a collector of anything valuable or otherwise, except it have a useful purpose such as money and property easily converted to cash. This is still true today.

This departure from the Netherlands on April 8, 1911 was rather routine and unnoticed in Holland, but no so in America. The April 17, 1911 issue of the New York Herald had this article on page 14 "Steamer Ryndam due April 17 Departed April 8, 1911. In wireless reports Steamer Ryndam (Dutch) Rotterdam was 735 miles east of Ambrose Channel Light at 8:45 p.m. on the 15th. Due at pier about 8 a.m. Tuesday."

Wednesday, April 19, page 15 New York Herald: "Steamer Ryndam from Rotterdam April 8th of the Holland American line with 327 and 287 steerage passengers and merchandise arrived at the bar at 7 p.m."



Steamship "Rijndam" which brought Jacob Dam, his wife Stientje and ten children from Rotterdam to New York in April, 1911. The oldest sons Bert and John were already in America. Jacob's brother, Jan, also came with them.

Newspaper Clippings of the Family's Arrival

The New York World
Wed., April 19, 1911
Page 4

THREE DAM SETS OF TWINS

Bigger Dams and littler ones too in immigrant family.

The whole Dam family arrived yesterday on the Ryndam and at the Immigration Bureau several counts were necessary before it was sure no Dam had been overlooked. There were three big Dams — Mr. and Mrs. Jacob and Jacob's brother Joseph, and eleven little Dams. They made half a column or so on the passenger list.

So that no Dam may be omitted here is the list: Hendrick and Piaternellaage Dam twins, seventeen years. Jacob Dam Jr. and Hellige fifteen years also twins, Johannes and Pieter eleven years, third set of twins. Liendert six, Cornelis nine, Stientje eight and Arie and Japs.

The Dams belong to the 3000 Holland peasants who are quitting their hard life and high rents to seek better conditions on the prairies.

The New York Times
April 19, 1911
Page 5

THE DAM FAMILY HERE

Father, Mother, and Eleven Children Arrive on the Ryndam from Holland.

Another batch of sturdy Dutch farmers, driven out of their own fertile land by land owners, arrived here yesterday in the second cabin on the Holland-America liner Ryndam, bound for the West. The Dam family, which consisted of the father and mother and eleven children, was the largest on board. Among the minor Dams were two sets of twins, Hendrik and Piaternella, 17 years old, and Hellige and Jacob, Jr., 15 years of age.

The ages of the other members of the Dam family were 11, 9, 8, 7, 6, 3 and 1. All the children were born at Nieuw Beyerland (Beyerdew), Holland, and both Mr. and Mrs. Dam are under 40 years of age.

Another big family on board the Ryndam was that of Mr. and Mrs. Wilhelm Wisse of Fernewhn, Holland, which comprised ten children, but no twins. Their ages were 23, 22, 19, 18, 16, 15, 13, 11, 9 and 5. The Wisse family are going to Passaic, New Jersey, to stay with an uncle, who has had his house enlarged to accommodate them.

Chicago Daily Tribune
Wed., April 19, 1911
Page 1

WHOLE DAM FAMILY ARRIVES

Thirteen members came from Ablasserdam in steamer Ryndam on their way to Iowa Farm.

NEW YORK, April 18.—(Special) More than 200 Dutch agriculturalists arrived today by the steamship Ryndam from Rotterdam. They included the Dam family from Ablasserdam, made up of thirteen persons. The Dams are bound for Pella, Iowa.

The Des Moines Register & Leader
April 19, 1911
Page 45

WHOLE 'DAM' FAMILY COMING TO IOWA

Papa and Mamma Dam and Eleven Little Dams Arrive From Rotterdam.

BOUND FOR PELLA, IA.

Dam Family Creates Sensation In New York on Arrival — "Had Damfine Trip," Says Fritz Dam.

NEW YORK, April 18—Special: The whole Dam family is in our midst, and will head inland toward a new home on a farm at Pella, Ia., tomorrow.

Fresh from Rotterdam, Mr. and Mrs. Dam and eleven little Dams arrived at Ellis island this afternoon on a Holland-American line steamer, and to quote the words of Fritz Dam, the oldest of half a dozen boys, as explained by an interpreter, "We had a damfine trip over."

This family of Dams is not fiction, like the popular creation of the well known artist, but is a real, living, ambitious bunch of sturdy emigrants, going to till a fortune out of the Dam

quarter section, which lies a few miles out of Pella.

There is no U. B. Dam nor I. B. Dam in the family. They have plain Dutch stock handles. There is Katrine and Willemina and Gretchen and Elschen, and Willem and Klauss and Fritz, and some smaller ones, all jolly Hollanders and happy to land, but not a one could see a chance for a laugh in their name.

The Dams created more excitement among the seaboard reporters of the New York newspapers than any arrivals that have made quarantine in months. Pictures of the whole Dam family appeared in half a dozen newspapers tonight.

The youngsters were made much of, and Father Dam was approached often by reporters trying to get a front name hooked up so it would fit nicely with the hind name, but he wouldn't stand for it.

According to the Dams, Pella is a Mecca for emigrants from Holland and Germany. It is reported a factory there makes nothing but wooden shoes.

Needless to say, the population of Iowa will be increased by thirteen Dams before the week is out.

Oskaloosa Herald
Thursday, April 20, 1911

DAM FAMILY ARRIVES

The Jacob Dam family, which because of the name, the place of its nativity and its size, has attracted much newspaper notoriety while on route from Holland to Pella, arrived in Oskaloosa today and remained here about an hour, leaving at 12:35 p.m. for their final destination. There are 12 in the family and they came direct from Leerdam, South Holland. K. Ver Ploeg, acted as interpreter for a Herald reporter and through his services Mr. Jacob Dam, head of the family, explained that they had a fine voyage to this country. Although the Dams have been in this country three days, they have been heard of from coast to coast. They created much excitement at the depot when they arrived and a large crowd gathered around them to get a glimpse of the big family with their foreign ways and customs. For some unknown reason, the dog was left behind. The entire family from the youngest to the oldest are sturdy and healthy looking. The younger Dams seem to like much excitement as they had a broad smile on their face.

then they stepped on to the platform and saw the large crowd of eager people watching them. The youngsters were made much of and the girls with their large rosy cheeks seemed to make a hit. They rank in age from one to twenty-one years. Mr. Dam stated that the family enjoyed the excitement which they caused among seaboard reporters at New York. They were accompanied to this country by Mr. and Mrs. P. Van Soelen and three children who are also from Leerdam and headed for the same place.

If any more families like the Dam family come to Pella, the population of the town will be greatly increased with good people who are the salt of the earth.

Chicago Daily News
Thursday, April 20, 1911 Page 44

SEE SON AS PRESIDENT

Jacob Dam and His Family of 12 Reach Chicago on Way from Holland to Iowa

BIRTH LAW IS A HARD BLOW

Hopes Finally Placed in Grandchild — Little Girls Anxious to See New Home and Pets

Visions of fame, wealth and even possible presidential honors for a family coming to America yesterday brought a strange little immigrant party through Chicago. It was at once strange and complete, for it comprised Jacob Dam, a sturdy Holland farmer and nearly the whole of Mr. Dam's family, numbering altogether thirteen persons. The party left last night at 11 p.m. for Pella, Iowa, after a short stay in the city. There they plan to engage in farming on land purchased by two other sons, who preceded the family and today began carving out the path they have dreamed of as leading to fortune and affluence and possibly even, as they thought, to the white house.

Roster of the Family

Here is the roster of the family as it appeared on the cabin list of the Ryn-dam steamer which landed them in New York several days ago:

Jacob Dam, father, 45 years old
Mrs. Jacob Dam, his wife 43 years old
Hendrick Dam, 17 years old

Jacob Dam, Jr., 15 years old
Johannes Dam, 11 years old
Pieter Frans Dam, 9 years old
Leendert Dam, 6 years old
Cornelis A. Dam, 3 years old
Arie C. Dam, 1 year old
Piternella Dam, 17 years old
Hilligje Dam, 15 years old
Steintje Dam, 8 years old
Jan J. Dam, brother of Jacob Dam

The party came on a special immigrant train over the Erie railroad, which arrived at the Dearborn station early yesterday evening. Thence they were transferred to the LaSalle street station, where they waited until an 11:30 p.m. train should carry them to their new home in Iowa. While waiting for train time the father of the Dam family revealed to a reporter for The Daily News the real secret of why he had come to America. He was interrogated in German.

"I'll tell you the real reason why I came," said the father in all seriousness. On his shoulder he trundled his 1 year old son, Arie, who munched vigorously on a dry crust of bread.

See Son President; Hopes Go

"See my little boy, here? Well, he's going to become president of the United States, just like Theodore Roosevelt was. Roosevelt was from our country, you know, and the best president in the world. My boy will possibly be president also."

The little brown eyed presidential hopeful smiled as though he understood just what his proud father was predicting for him and Papa Dam's eyes smiled back a fatherly assurance. Other members of the family nodded their endorsement of the scheme. Ever since the little fellow had been born this had been the hope of the family. But their long built hope was to be blasted with what they heard the next moment.

"To be president of the United States your boy would first of all have to have been born in this country," they were told. "President Roosevelt was born here and not in Holland."

Pin Hopes to Grandson

The father's eyes opened wide. The little fellow did not understand and smiled on. A tear started in the mother's eye.

"Well, if it can't be my boy," philosophized the father, "maybe I'll have a grandchild some day that can be president."

All members of the family discussed willingly and with enthusiasm the prospects of their new farm home in Iowa. Two older sons, Jan, 21 years old, and Bertus, 19 years old, had preceded the family as pioneers two years ago and purchased the farm, which is now under cultivation.

"Bertus and Jan," explained the

mother, "left our home in Holland to come over here and go on the farm. They did not know any one, but they came over and began to work. We sent them money and they bought the farm and built the house where we are to live. Everything is ready to settle down. We have looked forward to this for a long time, it has seemed."

Little Girl Anxious for Home

Little Steintje, 8 years old, here made herself heard.

"I can't wait until I get there," she laughed in delighted anticipation. "Big brother Jan has bought me a nice, white kitty. He wrote me about it."

"And I'm going to have a fine big dog when we get to the farm," interrupted 6 year old Leendert in glee.

The family is of the sturdy type of Holland farmers now arriving in New York in considerable numbers. They are well supplied with money, and each member is the picture of perfect health. They continued to attract attention in the waiting room of the station, where they sat until nearly midnight for the train.

Grand Rapids Press

Friday, April 21, 1911

NEW YORK, April 21—For several years Americans have been laughing at the Dam family. Today the Dam family turns the laugh on Americans. They arrived from their home, Nieuw Bierland, Holland and they are going on to farm in Iowa to show Americans what a family really can do. It's back to the soil for the Dam family. Today there are millions of flat-living, struggling city oppressed fashionably dressed American families that are not half so well off as the whole Dam family. The only pity of it is that the Dam farms cannot be duplicated for every American family and that all American children cannot be as strong and well and hearty as the Dam children.

The whole Dam family smiled when it got off the boat in New York. It didn't know that it was teaching Americans a lesson. It didn't know in fact why the scores of reporters were so wild to get hold of them. Why the photographers made them pose and why the New York newspapers carried such long stories about them. They didn't know about the American joke about the Dam family.

Jacob Dam, the farmer is fifty-six years old. By careful farming and saving he gained a farm in Holland. As the children came he gave them good education of the wholesome sort.

There are eleven children including two sets of twins.



DAM FAMILY AS SNAPPED BY CAMERA IN NEW YORK

Pella Chronicle

May, 1911

Page 46

THE DAM FAMILY THAT PUT PELLA ON THE MAP

Interesting Writeup of Pella and Her
Family of Dams
by HOWARD MANN

Howard Mann, a representative of the Newspaper Enterprise Assn., of Chicago, followed the Dam family from Chicago to Pella last week to get a few pointers on who they were and where they were going. His description of what he discovered when he reached this city is as follows:

Editor

PELLA, IOWA, April 20—That Dam family have discovered the "One Way Out" if anyone has.

They can't speak a word of English. But they can teach us a lesson in solving the problem of living.

They've been in America only a week or so but they are already settled on an Iowa farm, six miles from here — snugly settled in a six-room house on 40 acres of rich Iowa land — 14 of them.

Where will they sleep? Goodness knows. But they won't be in a six-room house on a rented farm very long.

They have all come over here to work — from the baby boy to the father. They will work hard and save

their money and in a few years they'll own their own farm and maybe the one next to it.

The Dam family came from Nieuw Beyerland, near Rotterdam. The Father, Jacob Dam, was a baker and he couldn't do any more than get barley enough to feed the 12 hungry children. His problem was much the same as countless American workmen in countless American cities.

He started to solve the problem and he was helped by letters from his friends in the big Dutch settlement at Pella. He decided to give up everything in Holland; to sell everything he owned, give up his trade and become a farmer in America.

He figured the thing out systematically. He didn't know anything about farming and knowledge was necessary — so two years ago he sent his oldest son, Jan Johannes to Pella. A year ago, the next boy, Gys Bertus, aged nineteen, joined his brother and the two went to work as farm hands.

In the meantime the father saved his money and by the time the two boys knew farming he had the means to bring the remaining 12 to America. The boys had chosen the farm. They rented the 40 acres in January for \$4 an acre. The father sold his effects and started for America, timing his arrivals so that they would be there just at planting time.

The Dam family got here to find their 40 acres plowed and ready for the seed. They arrived at Pella one day, moved to the farm the next and the following morning they were busy planting.

The Dutch settlement at Pella was founded 63 years ago by 200 pioneers led by Rev. Henry P. Scholten. These pioneers had nothing but perseverance and an ability to toil. They left Holland because they believed in church reform and because they wanted a place where they could improve their conditions. They bought land for \$1.25 an acre. This land is now selling around \$125 an acre.

Pella is a biblical name which means "The City of Refuge." It has been a city of refuge for the Dutch. The land in four townships around Pella is owned by Hollanders. There are 4000 Dutch settled around Pella. There are five banks in the town and many residents are forced to keep their money in stockings because the strong boxes are chock full.

The Dutch settlers become American citizens as soon as possible. They go to church regularly and often. They are strong for education. There are schools galore and a college in Pella.

The farmers who have been here any length of time have fine brick homesteads, big barns and automobiles. They carry their produce in auto trucks.

Some of the farmers who have lately come over wear wooden shoes and have little but the clothes on their backs.

The Dam family have received no end of attention since they landed in America. They were photographed in New York and Chicago and Pella and points enroute. Mrs. Dam was asked at the Pella farm to bring out her family and pose for a picture. She didn't

like the idea.

"Why do they photograph us so much?" she asked through an interpreter. "Is it a disgrace to have a big family in America? I am proud of my children and I don't want their pictures printed and fun poked at them in the papers."

Mrs. Dam has reason to be proud of her big family. They are a sturdy lot. Life with her may be one Dam thing after another, but she and the rest of the Dam flock will be riding in their own auto while some of the rest of us will think it lucky to have car fare.

So don't Dam that Dam family.

Pella Chronicle

Thursday, April, 1911

Had the same story as printed in the Register and Leader of April 19, 1911.

The Register and Leader

Friday Morning, April 21, 1911

Contained a picture of the Whole Dam Family

A short editorial in the Pella Chronicle dated April 27, 1911:

"The coming of the Dam family to Pella has given this city an immense lot of free advertising."

A transcript of a clipping from a Boston paper:

ROTTERDAM DAMS COME ON RHYNDAM

Whole Family of Naughty Name Arrives in New York on Liner

NEW YORK, April 19—The whole Dam family of Rotterdam came in on the Ryndam yesterday. There were 13 members of the family with the "naughty word" name, including Father Dam, Mother Dam, Brother Dam and Sister Dam, several other brother and sister Dams not to speak of Baby Dam and his Dam Big Dog.

The Dam twins came along too, and there are two sets of them. Father Dam's brother, Jan J. Dam also came to add to the Dam population in the United States. The ages of the little dams range from 17 years down to 1 year, and not one of the bunch can speak English. They are going to Iowa to get rich farming.

In the collection of Dams of assorted sizes and ages there is a variety of names which will probably be the despair of the school teachers and census enumerators in Pella, Iowa, the town for which this interesting Dutch family is headed. There are Hendrick and Piaternella, Hilligje and Johannes, Peter Frans, and Stientje, Leendert and Arie among others.

The Arrival

Having left Ellis Island with a clean bill of health, Jacob and the whole Dam family, with vigor and enthusiasm, left New York by train to pioneer in the Midwest. The press, unbeknown to them, was following for more information and stories about this renowned family. Arriving in Chicago, they were again interviewed by the press and by constant picture taking. This was getting to be quite a burden for Stientje to have her children line up and looking prim at all times. Jacob was being interviewed for comments, but he, not knowing any English, stubbornly refused to cooperate. Then onward to Pella — they finally arrived at the home of Stientje's sister Piaternella Koeleman. She was a widow lady and prepared for the arrival of her sister's family in her large home. Again the

following day photographers and newspaper people came for pictures and interviews. Stientje was getting very exasperated by all this and asked her sister why all the publicity for her family and not any other Dutch family getting this recognition. Her sister said "Stientje, just pose for another picture, then you will have another easy ten dollars."

Now the reader may wonder why all this free publicity. Well, as it was, a few years before a cartoonist had made famous a cartoon of Mr. and Mrs. Dam, the Dam dog and the whole Dam family. When they were to arrive in New York, word got around that the actual Dam family was arriving. It attracted the newspapers as a human interest story. This picture of the actual family was indeed picturesque with all the family lined up in a row and Jacob's brother John following in the rear. This picture I have

seen in an old New York newspaper which was in bad condition and not reproduceable. Old timers remember the picture and cartoon well but the family always ignored it as being fact.

When these young Dutch boys were in association with their American counterparts like a public sale, they would suggest "Why not add a letter 'n' to your name and make it complete?" This, needless to say, was quite embarrassing to these green Dutch boys who were lacking a sense of humor. Before the family had left Holland, Jacob's elder bachelor brother, Arie, had advised them that this would happen and suggested that they change their name before leaving for America, to Jacob's mother's family name, Lughtenburg, but he would not hear of it. When Sons Henry and Jake purchased the store in Peoria in approximately 1923 or 1924, it became known as the "Dam Store". This got to be quite embarrassing to the family as they were quite religiously oriented and a bit short of humor. Several suggestions were made when finally they settled on a suggestion of a traveling salesman to add a letter "H" to the name so as to make the name rhyme with arm. Jacob however would not change his name as it did not bother him, he not knowing the language, or implied significance. His comment was "My name was Dam, it is Dam and will stay Dam."

The children of Jacob's brother, John, also changed their spelling by adding the letter H. They wanted their father John to also change his name to which he answered, "My father was Dam for over eighty years and I'm sticking with it."

Planning the Empire

Stientje's family had immigrated to America approximately 1900 and settled on a farm between Pella and Leighton which was referred to as living by "Leighton," because of its rural address. Sons John and Bert had been here on a reconnaissance mission, similar to Joshua and Caleb in Canaan. The two boys had rented a house for their family one and one-half miles northwest of the Groenenboom home. With this they also acquired a piece of pasture land where they could keep a few cows for milk and butter as well as a horse or two for transportation.

The whole family settled in this lonely, country house which was small but adequate, around the first of May, 1911. The children were enrolled in the Black Oak Center School where they were taught English and the other fundamentals of education. Fortunately, they had a teacher who was well versed in the Dutch language. Her name was Marie Vogelaar. Their next teacher was Marie LeFeber. Of the children attending school, Jake was perhaps the oldest, being approximately 15 years old. While he did not know English very well, but having a brilliant mind, the teacher soon informed him that he was smarter than she was and he should quit school and get to work. Jacob, who was a professional baker in Holland, felt like a fish out of water, wanting to do something worthwhile but had no experience in anything else. He did do day labor on the farm for various farmers, among them Otto Vermeer. The older boys also did farm work in this area.

Sundays were always a big social event of the week. In fact, the only social activity. The boys who were out working as farm laborers came home and also brought friends with them, as there was always open house at the Dams. As more people came for mealtime, more water was added to the soup. Also in the afternoon, everyone would go to Grandpa Groenenboom, only a few miles away, where there was also a large gathering of friends to make it a great weekly heyday.

As the season progressed, this young family had established a reputation of being hard working and ambitious. A local fellow, by name of John De Prenger, owned a sizable Des Moines river bottom farm with a good large house a few miles southeast of Eddyville, which he was willing to rent to these green Dutch farmers who were so industrious. Jacob and his family accepted this challenge and made preparations for an exodus to Eddyville in the spring of 1912. Prior to the move, John and Bert were instructed by their father to buy farm implements and livestock and other provisions. They attended farm sales and acquired horses, cows, chickens and provisions such as corn fodder, grain and hay. Funds for these purchases were loaned from Stientje's sister, Mrs. Koeleman. Only once in the whole season did father Jacob go along to make purchases for farming. He left the decisions to his 20 and 22-year-old sons. They knew

only a limited amount of English. This was quite a concession for a patriarchal, Calvinistic Dutchman who characteristically deemed themselves the "top hancho." The winter of 1912 when this acquisition took place was extremely rugged. It was exceptionally cold and snowy. All transportation was on foot or by bobsled. Surviving these extreme conditions no doubt made this family part of America's last frontiersmen.

Building the Empire

In the spring of 1912, the family packed up their worldly goods to move to Eddyville. Cattle were herded to Leighton and loaded on stock cars on the railroad. Hogs were loaded on wagons and hauled to the same loading site. When the livestock came to its destination, it was unloaded and brought to the new home by the same process. Some feed and machinery was also transported by rail. The family's goods were loaded on wagons and thus transported to Eddyville and the family went by the then current method of traveling. This was by horse and carriage or buggy.

Very soon the family became established in the community. Several other Holland families were moving to this area and a sizable Dutch church was established there which became the social center of these Holland immigrants. This was much to the liking of the younger people who now had an environment of their own, much like the one they were accustomed to in Nieuw Beijerland. The people in the Pella area had become more Americanized, which had made social activities in the community most difficult for the Dutch immigrant families. So as the family became established in the church's social activities, so too they became adapted to the American way of life and business practices and became an integral part of the community.

The first summer at Eddyville, Jacob received word by mail that his aged father, Jan Johannes had passed away. Knowing that he would not see his father again when he left Holland, this was nevertheless a deep emotional moment for Jacob, who never showed much emotion of any kind for anything. Unbeknown to him, his eldest daughter found him weeping and in great sorrow in a secluded room in his home when he received this information, while other family

members were all out working. When family members returned home from their duties, he nonchalantly made the word known with no emotional effects noticed by anyone. So well could Jacob control his emotions, whether good news or bad.



Jacob Dam Family

Standing: Stientje and Jacob. Front row: Mrs. Edw. Hiubregtse, Elsie Klaaren, Stella, Cornie. Extreme right: Helen. Sitting on Mrs. Hiubregtse lap: Arie, others not identified. (1915 in Eddyville, Iowa)

For three years the family worked hard and flourished, when they received word that the landowners' daughter was getting married and would move to the farm which they now so proudly called home. Now the question was where do you go with such a large growing family? If a large farm could be found to rent, would the house be large enough? Could a Hollander buy a large farm with a big house and only limited capital resources? Again it fell upon John and Bert to scout around for a farm. It appeared that a suitable farm would become available between Albia and Eddyville, just east of the Methodist Church owned by Otto Vermeer. The two boys looked over the farm and decided to rent it, but just before they approached Mr. Vermeer for leasing it, a man by name of Andrew Bandstra had signed a rental contract.

Now then, where next? Their needs were a large farm, a big house, a Dutch location. This was their next challenge. At this time there were two banks in Eddyville. Being a shrewd

Dutchman, Jacob borrowed money in one bank and had his savings in the other. He also maintained a savings account in one of the Pella banks. Purpose of the use of different banks was that the "prime rate" was cheaper in one bank and the savings rate higher in the other two. The local bank where Jacob had his savings account tried to get his checking and business account and upon shrewd bargaining, this bank agreed to make loans at the same cheaper rate as the other bank. This bargaining left a very favorable impression upon this banker who knew of a large farm for rent at Peoria, known as the John Beech farm. A daughter of Beech was married to a Mr. France who owned a lumber yard in Ollie. He was looking after renting this farm. John and Bert made arrangements to meet Mr. France in Oskaloosa for an interview to lease this farm of 440 acres currently occupied by Arie De Jong who rented it for a cash sum of \$1200.00. When they arrived in Oskaloosa, the two boys were anxiously awaiting the outcome of this meeting. A few other people were in the room waiting for an interview and the boys were asked to wait until Mr. France had visited with these other prospective renters.

As these farming interviews were taking place, Mr. France was leaving open the possibility of renting it to the Dutch family that the Eddyville banker had highly recommended. Upon completion of the visit with Mr. France, the boys were advised to look over the farm and if found suitable, they could rent it for \$1500.00 cash money. They returned and found it to be a suitable farm and signed a lease for it. So in the spring of 1915, the whole family left Eddyville and moved to Peoria among the Dutch. This was cherished by all because in other areas like Oskaloosa and even Eddyville, the Dutch would gather together and the Americans in another huddle, each ignoring the other but suspicious of each other's actions, which later proved to be entirely untrue. It was only a lack of communication. In the Peoria area, this was not the case as it was exclusively Dutch.

For three or four years this farm was rented, and as everybody worked either on this farm or on area farms as farm hands, the money all went into one common pot which was controlled by Jacob. Money was thus accumulating and the family was well provided for. At this time

an opportunity arose to purchase this farm which Jacob did for the sum of \$60,000.00 and started a building program for farm buildings. This total project was well planned, Jacob having learned how to operate such a program from the experiences of Solomon's temple building which he used in a small scale. Needed buildings were two large barns, corn cribs, chicken house, hog sheds, water system and related buildings and fences. There being considerable timber on the farm, the winters were spent cutting saw logs for lumber and the wood from the treetops was used for heating and cooking. Neighbors also helped with this project as they were given the wood in turn for cutting down the saw logs. These logs were then hauled to a sawmill a mile south of the timber owned by Jimmy Carter. These logs laid there for quite awhile and the need of using the lumber was approaching. Mr. Carter, who had no love for the Dutch, refused to operate the sawmill and left the logs lay to aggravate these Hollanders. They were then reloaded on wagons and taken to a sawmill a few miles northwest of Peoria operated by Bill Johnson who then made lumber for them for years to come.

Farming progressed in normal fashion for its day. The project being in charge of John. Bert who was married and lived only a few miles distant on a farm and was a carpenter by trade, was in charge of construction. This was done in the slow seasons of farming. Sand, cement and lumber was shipped in by rail to Tainter about seven miles distant. These materials were all hauled by horse and wagon to the building site by the younger boys and then stockpiled. The concrete had to be mixed by hand which was very strenuous, physical work. To cut down expenses, limestone was quarried and chunks of it put in with the concrete. Jacob himself helped put stone in the concrete which was his only assistance as he was busy as architect and providing for the family as well as doing the chores in the busy season. In a few short years, a modern set of farm buildings were constructed and everyone prospered. Additional land was rented and a Fordson tractor was purchased, together with plow and disc to assist in the operation. Jacob was very forward looking, being one of the very first farmers in the area to farm with a tractor. Earlier in 1918 he had purchased a Crow-Elkhart automobile

for his personal transportation. However, he always needed to be chauffeured as he never learned to drive the car.

Not much was improved on the house as it was fairly adequate, but far from lavish. A wash house was built a few feet from the house where the laundry was done. An attached room on the house called a "summer kitchen" was where the cooking and baking was done most of the time. This was indeed very, hot laborious work when the summertime heat was at its peak. Wood and corncobs were used for fuel the year around. The girls of the family were in charge of the housework, laundry and cleaning. Stientje herself a hard worker, planned the meals and did the cooking. She loved to be outdoors and tended the chickens.

After a very busy day, Stientje became ill in the early evening of a hot June day. She had contracted pneumonia and died a week later on the sixth of July, 1926.

I remember this occasion very well. Funeral arrangements were being made and needed to be done in strict formal Dutch fashion. Black ties were purchased for the men to go with their stiff-collared white shirts. The women searched for black dresses and some were hastily made for wearing to the funeral. Black handkerchiefs were a must for all. As a young lad of seven, I was not to go to the funeral, but had to stay at the neighbors with my younger sisters.

After this sad occasion everything returned to its proper course and the farm prospered. Two new Ford touring cars were purchased for the young people's transportation. A few years later in 1928, a Chevrolet four-door sedan was the replacement for one of the Ford cars which was the ultimate in luxury transportation. In the summer of 1928, Stella the youngest daughter, got married. She had been the housekeeper and cook for the four farmer sons at home together with Jacob and the many weekend guests that came there.

The Empire Crumbles

The big question now was what to do about a cook and housekeeper for this close-knit family. It was then decided to employ a neighbor girl,

by name of Jean Vos, who took over these tasks until she married a year or two after. Prosperity was rampant but internal dissatisfaction soon developed among the sons and the father, Jacob. While Jacob was an excellent manager, he failed to realize the importance of turning over much of the farming responsibilities to his younger sons. The sons were ambitious and without respecting their father's wishes assumed and took over the responsibilities. While neither side was totally at fault, this lack of communication did cause problems and concern. Jacob, like his many other foreign counterparts, had too much Dutch pride — he was a Dutchman and not an Americanized Hollander. His sons, like many other Dutch immigrants, wished to Americanize too fast to avoid being identified as a Dutch "greenhorn." Like many of his Dutch counterparts, Jacob also played the role of a "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde." He was very well respected in the community and highly praised, but his communications with the younger members of the family left something to be desired.

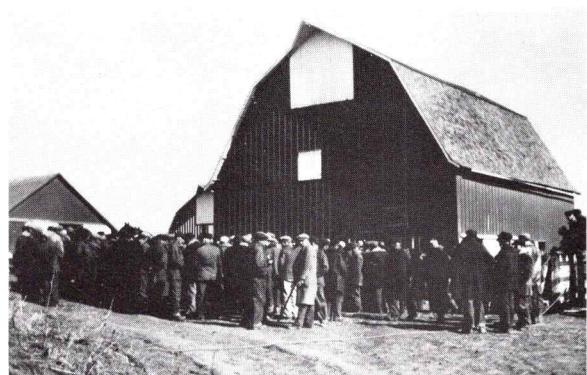
So internal friction became prevalent as the boys would speak English to each other and to their friends who came to their home. This displeased the father very much as he could not understand the conversation. Sons Henry and Jake had purchased a general store in Peoria about 1923 and were doing very well financially. Jealousy developed among the brothers who saw a fast easy buck in the mercantile trade. Joe purchased a general store in Galesburg, and took his brother Leonard in for partner. This again displeased Jacob very much as he was left with the problem of only himself and two young sons to operate the family farm.

Jacob was very close to his niece Nellie and her husband Carl Vander Linden, who lived on a farm north of Leighton where Grandpa Groenenboom formerly lived. One day, when Nellie and Carl were visiting Jacob, he sold them the whole farm to free himself of the apparent internal strife. It was unbeknown to the sons that this should be forthcoming. When this was announced, it was as if a bombshell had struck. But so it was, Jacob was going to retire and wanted rid of the farm.

In the meantime the Galesburg store which Joe and Leonard operated met with complete

failure in a few months and they sold out the entire stock and liquidated. Now again the four sons were together with the problem of what to do and where. The empire had crumpled and the farm had been sold. The four sons rented a farm northwest of Peoria.

In February, 1931, Jacob had a large farm close-out sale which ended his farming career.



Selling horses on Jacob Dam farm sale

The sale bill read as follows in abridged form

Public Sale Wed., Feb. 11, 1931 at 10AM

200 Head Livestock
9 Horses
57 Hereford Cattle
28 Cows to calve in spring
24 Yealing Calves
2 Fall Calves
3 Bulls
135 Fall Pigs
10 Dozen White Leghorn Chickens
Farm Machinery

2 wagons, John Deere binder, John Deere mower, Deering corn binder, 2 - 9ft. McCormick Deering discs, Hayes corn planter, gang plow, hay loader, John Deer side rake, Fordson tractor, New Idea manure spreader, 3 riding cultivators, 2 - 4 section harrows, hay rack, end gate seeder, corn sheller, corn slicer, 1½ horsepower gas engine, De Laval cream separator, double tub washing machine, Sol Hot brooder, brooder house, and 3 sets harness.

Feed and Grain

15 ton mixed hay, 4000 bushel corn, 2500 bushel oats and numerous other items

Worth and Van Zante, Auct.

Jacob Dam, Sr., owner



Washing machines to be sold at sale.

Carl Vander Linden moved to the farm and Jacob moved to the Home for the Aged in Pella. In the summer of 1931 he went for a return visit to Holland where he spent three months to his great satisfaction. He then returned to his newly established home in Pella where he lived comfortably. Jacob had some severe asthmatic attacks which still hindered him at times. He would oftentimes sleep in the chair all night. He also had been to Denver to seek relief.

In the late summer of 1934 he developed prostrate problems. This was an old problem which he already encountered when living at Eddyville when on one occasion John got the doctor to help him. It was also a problem of his father, Jan Johannes, in Holland. To relieve his problem he was to go to a hospital in Des Moines. The family doctor, Sybenga, knew that a Pella lady who spoke good Dutch would be very helpful to care for Jacob, so he recommended he be admitted to the Mercy Hospital. This is where he had his surgery. After his surgery he noticed the nurses wore robes and realized he was in a Catholic hospital. This made Jacob furious and his frustrations could hardly be contained. This devout Calvinist who had for many years been an elder in the Peoria Christian Reformed Church felt his family had betrayed him. After everything was explained, he accepted it without further ado. He recovered to a good stable point until perhaps a year later he developed stomach problems. He took medicine sold by a quack doctor out of Muscatine for some time, which was the in thing to do in those days. The medicine did not do any good, so sons Henry and Jake had Dr. Sybenga examine him. The family wanted him to have surgery but the doctor did not recom-

mend it. So he had or developed stomach cancer from which he died in the fall of 1936.

Thus ended the career of a patriarchal father who had done very well providing for his family both in Holland and America. His concern was the welfare of his family's future. After raising 12 children, his noble goal was realized when he became established and rooted in American agriculture. He provided very well for his family, church and community. All his life he worked hard and managed well. Like many other American people, the depression in the early 30s completely wiped out his savings and financial security. "The Lord giveth, the Lord taketh away, blessed be the name of the Lord" was Jacob's experience.

I Remember Grandpa

Riding in a one horse buggy bringing coffee to his sons during the oats harvest.

The large unique garden planted in oblong beds instead of the straight rows.

His large, neat woodpile neatly stacked for use in the cookstove.

Sitting on the front porch while he was peeling potatoes telling me who the following Sun-

day's preacher would be, describing him as to size, age, beard, mustache, glasses, etc.

Sitting behind him in the east section of the Peoria church during a Christmas program. He lifted me over the pew and put me on Grandma's lap.

Sitting on the back porch while he was reading the English paper to see what the grain and livestock markets were and telling me about it. When the boys came home for noon dinner he would give them the paper so they could tell him the market report which he already knew.

Taking charge of the preliminaries (voordezer) before the minister started preaching.

Listening to him tell me about his automobile trades, trading his Crow Elkhart for a Model T.

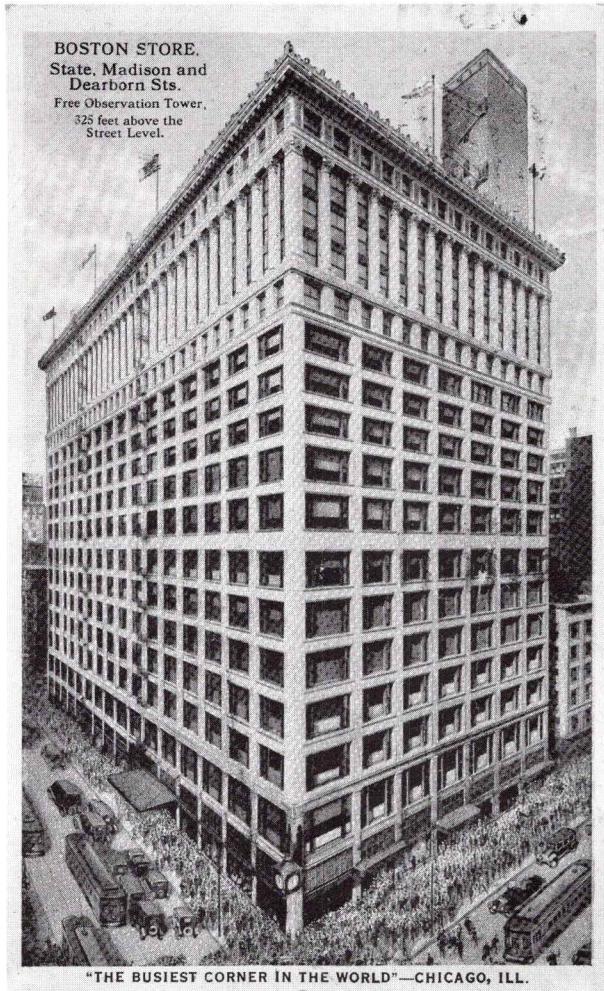
Painting buildings, doing chores, helping Grandma with household tasks, but no field work except one afternoon in oat harvest, when a storm was brewing, he went to shock oats and I was to look after his horse and buggy.

How he showed his grief and emotions when Grandma died.

The large farm sale on a bright, beautiful day in February, 1931.



Jacob Dam Farmstead (1937)

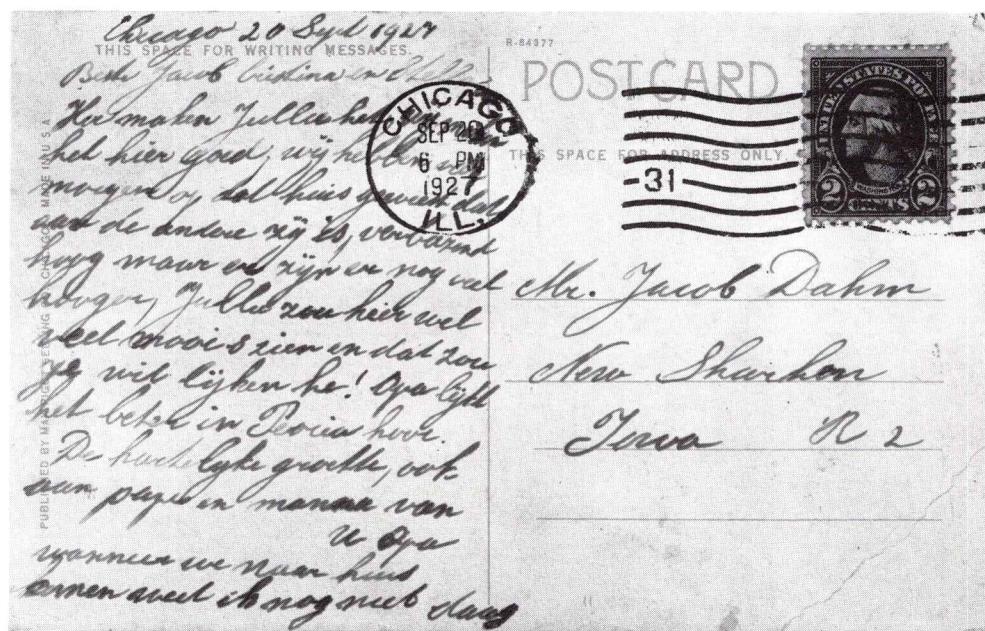


Jacob Dam wrote this card to his three grandchildren on September 20, 1927 when he was visiting his daughter Nellie in Chicago.

Dear Jacob, Christina and Stella,

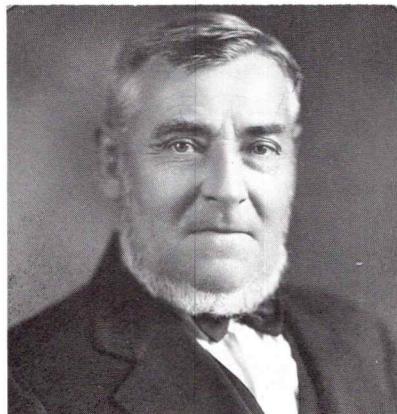
How are you making it. We are fine. This morning we were on top of this high building. There are those that are still higher. You would see a lot of interesting things here but Grandpa would rather be in Peoria. Say hello to your father and mother. I do not know when I will be coming home.

Your Grandpa



Chapter X

The Twelve Tribes of Jacob



Jacob Dam

4. Jacob born Mar. 27, 1866, died Oct. 13, 1936. Married Mar. 20, 1890 to Stientje Groenenboom, born Apr. 3, 1867, died July 6, 1926.
 - A. JOHN, named after his grandfather Jan Johannes Dam

As a young man, he worked in his father's bakery in Nieuw Beijerland where his father taught him the bakery



John and Gertrude Dahm

business. In 1909 he came to America with his friend, Neal Bouman, and arrived at his maternal grandparents, Groenenboom, east of Pella. John worked as a farm laborer for a few years. After his family arrived, he became responsible for them to get settled and a start in farming.

In 1922 he married Gertrude Van Dorp. They farmed west of Peoria until the middle 30s when they purchased a farm northwest of Oskaloosa where they farmed until their retirement. They moved to Oskaloosa where Gertrude died after a long illness. John then moved to Fair Haven in Pella where he currently resides. Last winter he had major prostrate surgery at the age of 89 from which he completely recovered. He is a member of the Second Christian Reformed church.

John (Fair Haven, Pella, Iowa) born July 18, 1890, married Feb. 8, 1922 to Gertrude Van Dorp, born Jan. 23, 1895; died Dec. 8, 1970. Their children:

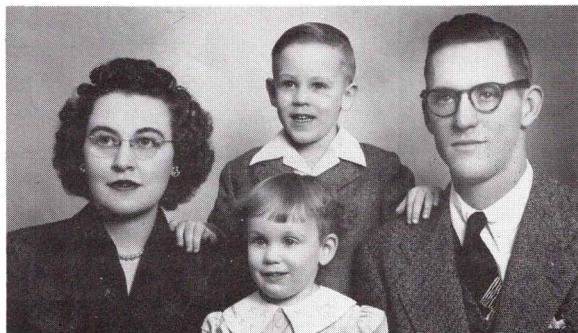
1. Cornie born Nov. 5, 1922, died Apr. 26, 1976. Married May 18, 1946 to



Cornie and Jeanetta Dahm

Jeanetta Den Adel, born Apr. 16, 1919. No children. (Service station operator. He was in ill health all his life with eczema.)

2. Tena Mai born Dec. 14, 1924, married Feb. 1, 1944 to Albert Van Englehoven, a farmer, born May 23, 1919. Their children:



Tena Dahm Family

Albert and Tena Mai Dahm Van Englehoven. Barry and Adonna

- a. Barry Jay born Dec. 14, 1948
- b. Adonna Jean born July 14, 1947. Married Aug. 11, 1967 to Jim Ver Meer born Apr. 13, 1938. Their children:
 1. Angela Dawn born May 27, 1972
 2. Jason Todd born Dec. 29, 1973; died Dec. 29, 1973
 3. Amanda Jo born Jan. 23, 1975



Adonna Van Englehoven Family

Jim and Adonna Van Englehoven Ver Meer and children

3. Wilma born Mar. 3, 1926, married Mar. 12, 1947 to Ralph De Bruin, a

farmer, born Jan. 24, 1922. Their child:

- a. Larry Ellen born May 6, 1950, married Jan. 11, 1980 to Ilene Lana born Mar. 24, 1947.

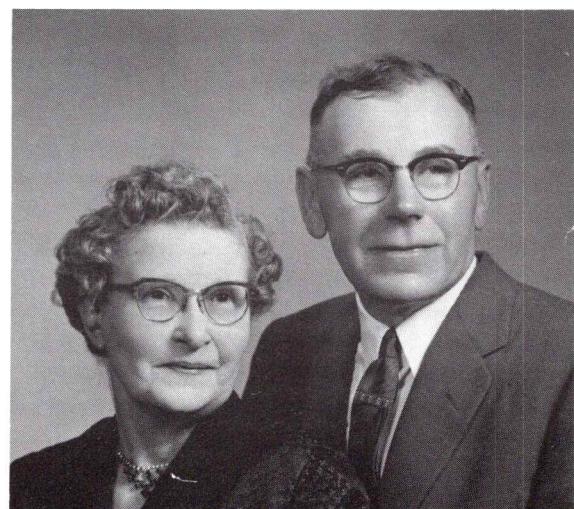


Wilma Dahm Family

Ralph and Wilma Dahm DeBruin and Larry

- B. GYSBERTUS born Oct. 6, 1891; died Nov. 10, 1891 caused by diarrhea.
- C. BERT, named after his maternal grandfather Gysbertus Groenenboom.

In Holland he was trained as a carpenter. After his arrival in America he worked as a farm hand for a few years and then again pursued his carpentry trade. After his marriage to Marie Van Genderen, he again took up



Bert and Marie Dahm

farming. They lived north of Pella the first year and then moved to the Peoria area. In 1935 they moved to the home place from where they retired to Pella in 1960 where they built a new home. He commuted back to the farm where he enjoyed working every day. Bert was for many years an elder in the Peoria Christian Reformed Church. Even though his views were quite liberal, he was highly respected for expressing himself charitably.

In 1966, he had prostrate surgery and shortly after his recovery he became paralyzed from his waist down overnight which was diagnosed as a tumor on the spine which later became malignant. He spent over two years in a wheelchair and then nearly two years in the nursing home where he died of bone cancer after a long period of suffering of which he never complained. His only comment, "Yes, son, this is the way life is." Marie died of a heart attack in the Pella Nursing Home in 1977.

Bert born Nov. 7, 1892; died Apr. 21, 1970. Married Feb. 27, 1917 to Marie Van Genderen born Oct. 27, 1892; died Aug. 30, 1977. Their children: Jacob B., Christina and Stella.

1. Jacob B. born Dec. 6, 1918. Highway contractor and coal mine operator, Pella, Iowa. Married Mar. 9, 1949 to



J. B. Dahm Family

Back row: Bob, Marla, Bryce Jay. Front row: J. B., Tom, Ann, Arvena, Susan (on lap) and Mary (on floor)

Arvena Huyser, born June 9, 1924.

Their children:

- a. Ann Marie born Jan. 19, 1951. Married Mar. 10, 1973 to Robert A. Buckheister, an electrical engineer. Lives in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Their children:
 1. Thomas James born Aug. 14, 1977
 2. Susan Marie born Apr. 24, 1979
- b. Bryce Jay born Dec. 24, 1952. Coal mine operator, Pella, Iowa. Married July 19, 1980 to Marla Beth Beekhuizen born July 8, 1958.
- c. Mary Beth born Nov. 15, 1955, Denver, Colorado.
2. Christina born Dec. 31, 1920; Pella, Iowa. Married Oct. 4, 1945 to Vernon Van Ee, a farmer born Mar. 19, 1918. Their children:

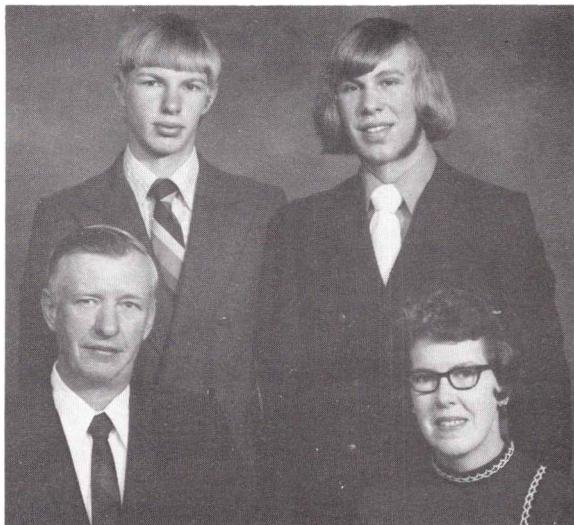


Christina Dahm Family

Keith, Carol, Vernon. Front row: Susan, Tricia and Christine

- a. Keith Vernon born July 12, 1955, a farmer, Pella, Iowa. Married Dec. 27, 1977 to Susan Lee Walhoff born May 6, 1955. Their child:
 1. Tricia Suzanne born May 16, 1980
 - b. Carol Marie born Aug. 27, 1965
3. Stella born Aug. 31, 1923; lives on the home farm of Jacob Dam, Pella, Iowa. Married Feb. 20, 1947 to Harold Pothoven, a farmer born June 14, 1923. Their children:

- a. Darl born Oct. 3, 1951; Recreational Administrator in State Hospital, Durham, North Carolina. Married LuAnn Vos Aug. 3, 1973.
- b. Dennis J. born Nov. 26, 1953; Attorney, Seattle, Washington. Married Aug. 12, 1978 to Brenda Potter born Mar. 13, 1955.



Stella Dahm Family
Dennis, Darl, Harold and Stella

- D. HENRY, named after his great grandfather Hendrik Van Lughtenburg.

He was taught the bakery business in Holland. After his arrival in America he became a farm hand and later worked on his father's farm. In 1923 he, together with brother Jake purchased the general store in Peoria. Here they bought cream, eggs, chickens and other farm produce which the people traded for groceries and other supplies. They did very well and he sold out to his brother Jake in the 40s when he and his wife Minnie again pursued farming southeast of Pella. From here they retired to Pella where they built a new home. He was a member of the Christian Reformed church and died of a heart ailment.

Henry born Oct. 30, 1893; died Aug. 16, 1968. Married Aug. 14, 1930 to Minnie Henrietta Van Roekel born Feb. 28, 1906. Their children:



Henry and Minnie Dahm

- 1. Marjorie (Lynnville, Iowa) born July 27, 1931. Married Mar. 15, 1950 to Richard Fopma, born Aug. 7, 1927, farmer. Their children:
 - a. Ervin Lee born Jan. 29, 1951. Married Nov. 6, 1970 to Gayle Ilene Laverman, born May 26, 1952. They have three children:
 - 1. Eric Lee born Feb. 25, 1973
 - 2. Gregory Scott born Dec. 22, 1976
 - 3. Lucas Evan born June 7, 1980



Marjorie Dahm Family
Back row: Rick and Ervin. 2nd row: Jim, Judy, Marjorie, Rick and Gayle. Front row: Verna and Alvin.

- b. Judith Eileen born Sept. 21, 1953. Married July 22, 1980 to Timothy Marvin Hoekstra, born Oct. 13, 1955.
- c. Verna Lou born Nov. 10, 1956. Married Aug. 27, 1976 to Alvin

Klyn born Nov. 21, 1955. They have two children:

1. Jeremy Allen born Nov. 27, 1979
2. Ryan Lee born Apr. 1, 1981
- d. Ricky Eugene born Nov. 12, 1960
- e. Loren Jay born Jan. 25, 1962
2. Arnold Jay born Sept. 12, 1932. PhD in Physics and teaches at Western Reserve University, 3165 Scarborough Road, Cleveland, Heights, Ohio 44118. Married June 29, 1968 to Susan Margaret Dickey born Mar. 28, 1943. They have two daughters:
- a. Amy Elizabeth born May 1, 1970
- b. Kristi Anne born June 18, 1973



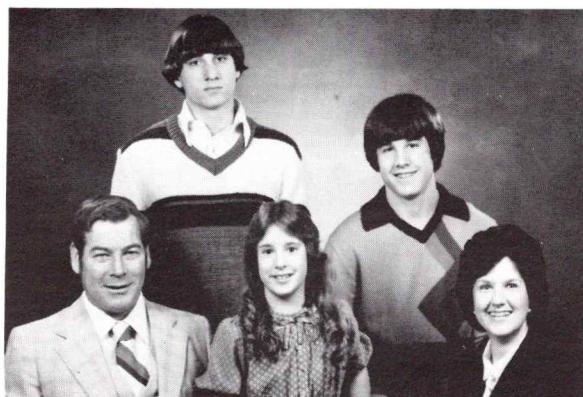
Arnold Dahm Family
Amy, Kristi, Arnold and Susan

3. Ruth Elaine born Sept. 3, 1936 (Box 324, Wickenburg Ariz. 85358). Married Aug. 12, 1955 to Theodore (Ted) De Vries, born Aug. 18, 1934. Their children:



Ruth Dahm Family
Back row: Terry, Tim, Ted. Front row: Tammy, Ruth, Natasha (lower left)

- a. Terrance L. born Sept. 22, 1956. Married July 26, 1980 to Debby Piccarreta born Oct. 3, 1954.
- b. Timothy R. born July 1, 1959
- c. Tamara Sue born Aug. 23, 1961. Married Feb. 16, 1980 to Delbert Wheeler, born Dec. 14, 1957.
- d. Natasha Ruth born Sept. 2, 1971
4. John Howard born May 18, 1939 (farmer, New Sharon, Iowa). Married Jan. 24, 1970 to Sandra Lee McMurray Hamilton, born Dec. 21, 1942. Their children:



John Dahm Family
Back row: Scott, Chad. Front row: John, Wendilee, Sandra

- a. Scott Edward born Nov. 15, 1962 (adopted)
- b. Chad Mitchell born July 22, 1965 (adopted)
- c. Wendilee born Aug. 11, 1971 (adopted)
5. Norma Jane (2104 52nd, Des Moines, Iowa 50310) born Aug. 4, 1940. Married May 31, 1961 to Ronald Hiemstra, born Jan. 20, 1938. Their children:



Norma Dahm Family
Back row: Paul and Jill. Front row: Douglas, Norma and Ron

- a. Douglas Mark born Nov. 1, 1962
- b. Jill Luray born Jan. 25, 1964
- c. Paul Victor born June 13, 1966

6. Barbara Ann born Nov. 26, 1941 (1042 21st West Des Moines 50265). Married Aug. 14, 1959 to Ronald Wayne Van Englehoven born Jan. 4, 1939. Their children:

- a. Suzanne born May 8, 1960
- b. Shawna born Oct. 2, 1962
- c. Nicole born Mar. 17, 1970

Divorced. Remarried Feb. 15, 1974 to Philip Slinker II, born Nov. 10, 1926. His children:

- a. Susan born May 6, 1965
- b. David Clay born June 19, 1967



Barbara Dahm Family
Back row: Susie, Shawna, Susan. Front row: Barbara, Phil, Nicole.

7. Erma Lynn born Apr. 15, 1945 (1136 Bromfield Terrance, Manchester, Missouri 63011). Married Mar. 31, 1967 to Bud Floor born Sept. 12, 1943. Their children:

- a. Jodi Lynn born April 8, 1973
- b. Benjamin Lee born July 13, 1976



Erma Dahm Family
Erma, Judy, Ben and Bud

E. NELLIE, named after her maternal grandmother Piaternella Van Gilst Groenenboom.



Henry and Nellie Dahm Labotz

She spent her unmarried life working in the family home helping with this large family. After her marriage to Herman Oldert, they moved to a farm near Montezuma from where they moved to Hollandale, Minnesota. They did truck farming in this newly developed area. From there they moved to Chicago where Herman operated a milk route.

After her divorce she operated a rooming house in Chicago. She attended Moody Church where she met Henry Labotz whom she later married. They then moved to Holland, Michigan, where they started the Holland Honeycake Company. They did very well in this business. In 1954 Nellie visited her birthplace in Holland, being the first of her family to do so. They retired in Hollandale, Florida where Henry died of old age. Nellie still lives in her condominium near the ocean and is in excellent health. She still drives her car and attends the Presbyterian Church in Hollywood, Florida. Nellie and her husband have been very generous to charitable causes. They were careful that no one knew about it as they did not want publicity. They had no children.

Nellie born Dec. 31, 1894 (2500 Diana Drive, Hollandale, Florida). Married Feb. 27, 1917 to Herman Oldert. Divorced, re-married Aug. 6, 1942 to Henry J. Labotz born April 18, 1891; died Dec. 27, 1972. No children

F. HELEN, named after her grandmother Hillige van Lughtenburg Dam.

She married Walter Vander Hart, a farmer, and lived in the Pella-Peoria area for many years. She raised a large family which was very trying during the depressions of the 30s. In the early 1940s they moved to Coolidge, Arizona where they farmed for a few years. Helen later returned to Pella where she made her home with daughter Jeanette until her death of cancer. She was a member of the Gospel Hall.



Walter and Helen Dahm Vander Hart

Helen born Dec. 23, 1895; died June 10, 1962. Married Mar. 1, 1922 to Walter Godert Vander Hart born Aug. 2, 1895. They had 11 children:

1. Godert Walter born Oct. 28, 1923. Married May 24, 1952 to Deloris Harmon born Oct. 22, 1931. They had three children:
a. Gary Steven born May 22, 1953, married Mar. 21, 1980 to Tressa Adams



Godert Vander Hart Family

- b. Ramona Jean born Oct. 2, 1954, married Apr. 5, 1975 to Robert Hanson. They had two children:
 - 1. Lucas born Nov. 5, 1977; died May 19, 1978
 - 2. Holly Ann born Aug. 10, 1979
- c. Cheryl born Dec. 6, 1959
- 2. Stella born Mar. 9, 1925. Married Dec. 13, 1949 to Dwight Taylor born Dec. 18, 1922. They had seven children:



Stella Vander Hart Family

- a. Ruth Marie born Oct. 23, 1950, married Rodney Orrensbry. They had three children: Michelle, Mark and Matthew.
- b. David Alan born Oct. 21, 1952
- c. Maryann born June 6, 1954
- d. Robert born Oct. 12, 1956
- e. Bruce born Sept. 12, 1958
- f. Lois Jean born Dec. 29, 1959
- g. Joan Beth born Dec. 21, 1961
- 3. Jacob John born May 14, 1926. Married Dec. 3, 1949 to Irene Carson born June 11, 1916. They had one son:
 - a. Donald James born Nov. 22, 1952. Married May 8, 1976 to Deborah Wilson. They had one son: John James born April 28, 1977.



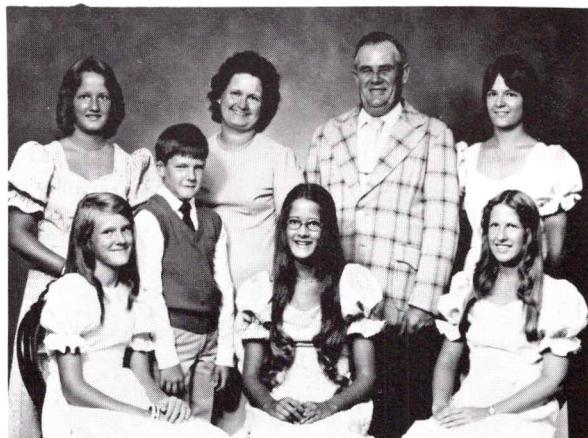
Jacob Vander Hart Family

Back row: Irene, John and Deborah. Front row: Jacob and Donald



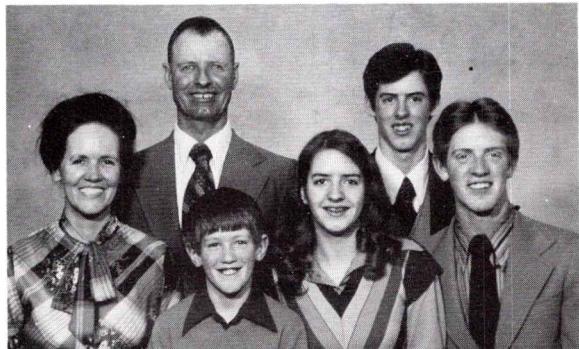
Jeanetta Vander Hart

4. Jeanetta born June 19, 1927, unmarried.
5. John William born July 30, 1928. Married Jan. 1, 1954 to Reba Briggs born Dec. 21, 1933. They had six children:



John Vander Hart Family

- a. Linda June born May 24, 1955, married John Harthorff
- b. Janice Lee born Jan. 20, 1958
- c. Carol Grace born Dec. 17, 1960
- d. Alice Marie born Feb. 11, 1963
- e. Martha Rose born Sept. 15, 1965
- f. Harold John born Apr. 16, 1967
6. Thomas born Apr. 7, 1930, died July 7, 1930.
7. Henry born July 17, 1931. Married Sept. 15, 1958 to Ann White. They had four children:
 - a. Timothy Ray born Jan. 17, 1961
 - b. Mark Henry born Nov. 29, 1962
 - c. Rhoda Jeanne born May 19, 1964
 - d. Phillip Walter born July 24, 1969



Henry Vander Hart Family

8. James born Apr. 15, 1933. Married Aug. 19, 1960 to Freda Jean Ter Louw born Oct. 20, 1932. They had one son:
 - a. Dennis born July 30, 1961



James Vander Hart Family
Dennis, Freda and James

9. Raymond born Apr. 21, 1934. Married Mar. 8, 1963 to Arlene Ter Louw born Feb. 20, 1931. They have two children:
 - a. Raylene born Jan. 26, 1966
 - b. Curtiss Ray born June 10, 1969



Raymond Vander Hart Family
Arlene, Raylene, Curtis and Raymond



Nellie Vander Hart Family

10. Nellie Anna born May 23, 1935. Married 1959 to John Yeo. They had three children:
 a. John Daniel born Sept. 21, 1959
 b. Bruce Russell born Dec. 9, 1961
 c. Michelle born Feb. 1968

11. Clarence born July 5, 1938. Married Nov. 2, 1964 to Virginia Richards.



Clarence and Virginia Vander Hart

G. JACOB, named after his father.

Jake was a farm hand for several years also working on his father's farm. Together with his brother Henry, they bought and operated the Peoria General Store from his future father-in-law. He married Effie Stursma who was a clerk in her father's store. Later he purchased his brother's interest. He moved to Pella where he built a new home and commuted back to Peoria several days a week to work in the store now operated by his son-in-law. Jake was an ardent Calvinist and would debate any theologian on Calvinism and win. He was widely read and very well informed on many subjects. He had been associated with the Protestant Reformed Church and later the Christian Reformed



Jacob and Effie Dahm

Church. He died shortly after suffering a severe stroke.

82
 Jacob, born Dec. 8, 1896; died Nov. 27, 1979. Married Apr. 24, 1925 to Effie Stursma (Pella, Iowa) born Apr. 23, 1901. Their children:

1. Twins born Aug. 9, 1929; died Aug. 9, 1929 and Aug. 12, 1929
2. Dorothy Jean born Apr. 17, 1932 (Pella, Iowa). Married Aug. 6, 1954 to Richard Van Kooten, merchandiser in Peoria store, born Nov. 19, 1927. Their children:



Dorothy Dahm Family

- a. Cheryl born Apr. 22, 1957
- b. Pamela born Sept. 30, 1958, married Aug. 15, 1980 to Kenrick Boat.
- c. David born May 26, 1961
- d. Twin brother born May 26, 1961; died May 26, 1961
- e. Robert born July 10, 1967
- f. Kathy Lou born Feb. 6, 1970



James Dahm Family
Jane, Jim, Sara, Marlene, Jeffery

3. James Peter born Sept. 29, 1935, a dentist in Pella. Married July 29, 1958 to Marlene Holleman born Feb. 6, 1937. Their children:
 - a. Jeffery P. born Nov. 17, 1964
 - b. Jane Ann born Mar. 27, 1967
 - c. Sara Celeste born June 12, 1973
4. Estella Celeste born Sept. 6, 1938. Married Aug. 19, 1959 to Allen Vis, a school teacher in Christian school in Edgerton, Minnesota, born Feb. 23, 1938. Their children:
 - a. Debra born Oct. 30, 1960
 - b. Julie born July 27, 1963
 - c. Trent born May 15, 1967
 - d. Melanie Ann born Mar. 19, 1970

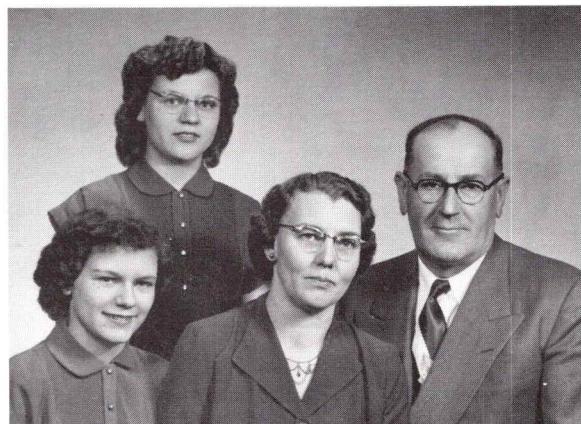


Estella Dahm Family
Back row: Debra, Julie and Trent. Front row:
Melanie, Estella and Allen

H. LEENDERT, born Nov. 18, 1897; died Nov. 21, 1900. This was a husky lad seemingly in good health. He was

stricken with a disease (known as "Klierterring" in Dutch) which affected his glands and the lad withered away and died.

- I. JOHANNES, born Oct. 31, 1898; died Nov. 16, 1899 caused by diarrhea.
- J. JOE, named after his grandfather Jan Johannes Dam.



Joe Dahm Family
Laverne, Lavonne, Minnie and Joe

He was a farmer. For many years he was the general manager for his father on the "Home Place." Then he purchased a general store in Galesburg with his brother Leonard. This was a short-lived venture and did not meet with any degree of success and was soon liquidated. He then, with his three younger brothers, farmed northwest of Peoria. After his marriage he bought a farm southeast of Peoria and was very successful in raising hogs. He had the misfortune of losing an eye and then moved to Pella where he built and operated apartment houses which business he also expanded to Oskaloosa. On a wintry January day he fell and broke his hip. On the operating table he died of a heart attack. He was a member of the Christian Reformed Church. They had no children of their own but adopted twin girls.

Joe born Dec. 11, 1899; died Jan. 27, 1968. Married Dec. 9, 1936 to Minnie Julia Van Gorp born Oct. 1, 1906 (Sioux

Center, Iowa). Their children: adopted twin daughters Oct. 27, 1944

1. Lavonne Muriel born June 19, 1934
2. Laverne Joanne born June 19, 1934

K. LEENDERT, born Jan. 5, 1901; died Jan. 18, 1901 caused by diarrhea.

L. LEENDERT, born Nov. 20, 1902; died Feb. 20, 1903 caused by diarrhea.



Gerrit and Stella Dahm Pothoven

M. STELLA, named after her mother

Stella married Garrit Pothoven, who taught in the Denver Christian schools for several years. In the middle 40s they moved to Holland, Michigan, where he was general manager for Holland Honeycake Company until his retirement when they moved to Jenison, Michigan. They are members of the Christian Reformed Church.

Stella (691 Carriage Lane, Jenison, Michigan) born Nov. 20, 1902, married July 26, 1928 to Garrit Pothoven, born Nov. 19, 1902. Their children:

1. Ronald James born Nov. 21, 1936. Teaches history in Holland Michigan



Ronald Pothoven Family

Christian High. Married Aug. 7, 1959 to Iris Buteyn born Sept. 5, 1937. Their children:

- a. Carla born Sept. 27, 1960
- b. Cheryl born Mar. 7, 1962
- c. Charles born Dec. 3, 1966

2. Carol Joyce born Aug. 28, 1939, married Dec. 19, 1957 to Gordon Dale Topp, born April 28, 1937. PHD in music, teaches at Calvin College. Their children:

- a. David born Aug. 30, 1959

The following adopted:

- b. Michael born July 31, 1958
- c. Belinda born Sept. 10, 1961
- d. Jill born June 26, 1964
- e. Karen born Oct. 18, 1970



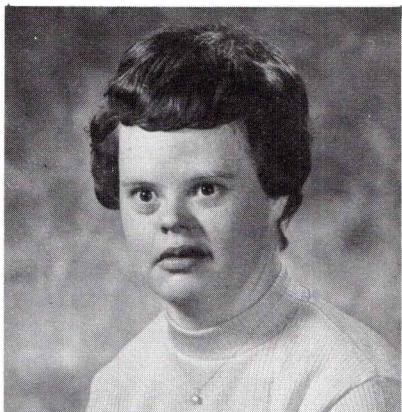
Carol Pothoven Family

3. Kenneth born Mar. 8, 1943, PHD in math, teaches at University of Tampa, Florida. Married Aug. 14, 1964 to Betty De Wys born Dec. 14, 1942. Their children:

- a. Kathy born June 27, 1965
- b. Donald born Jan. 29, 1967
- c. Steven born Aug. 17, 1971



Kenneth Pothoven Family



Marcia Pothoven

4. Marcia born Jan. 18, 1947, unmarried.
- N. PETER, named after a maternal great uncle Pieter Frans Van Gilst.

Peter was the only member of the family who attended school beyond the elementary grades. He attended Central College in Pella and graduated from Calvin College and Seminary. He became a minister in the Christian Reformed Church, serving in both Canada and the United States. When he retired he built a new home in Pella where he died very unexpectedly of a heart attack.



Peter and Grace Dahn

Peter Frans born Nov. 30, 1903, died Sept. 30, 1976. Married June 9, 1931 to Grace Monsma, born Mar. 29, 1905, died Apr. 24, 1977. Their children:

1. Arlo Jay born April 16, 1934, social worker in Seattle, Washington. Married Aug. 28, 1954 to Lynn

Swierenga, born Sept. 27, 1933, divorced. Their children:

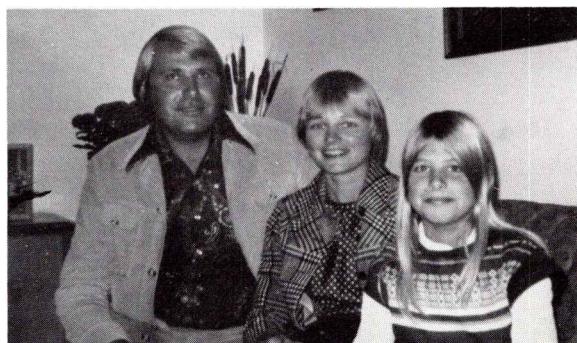
- a. Linda Grace born Jan. 23, 1956
- b. Sheryl K. born Oct. 26, 1957
- c. Richard Allen born Oct. 31, 1960
- d. Karen Arlene born Apr. 4, 1966

2. Frances Arlene born July 27, 1937, schoolteacher in Fremont, Michigan. Married Nov. 27, 1958 to Merlin Brinkman, born Sept. 23, 1933. Their child:
 - a. Jane Diane born Oct. 18, 1964



Frances Dahn Family
Merlin, Frances and Jane

3. John William, born Oct. 22, 1939, professor in University at Dallas, Texas. Married Aug. 18, 1961 to Barbara Figel born Feb. 21, 1939. Their children:
 - a. John David born Aug. 20, 1963
 - b. Roger Matthew born Aug. 21, 1966
4. Gordon John born Feb. 8, 1944, counselor in St. Joseph, Michigan. Married June 12, 1964 to Norene Wiersma, born May 21, 1943. Their child:
 - a. Michelle Janine born Jan. 13, 1967



Gordon Dahn Family
Gordon, Norene and Michelle

5. Peter Franklin born Mar. 14, 1948, attorney in Bay City, Michigan. Married Aug. 24, 1968 to Helen Padding, born Nov. 13, 1947.

O. ADRIAANTJE, born Mar. 30, 1905; died July 13, 1905, caused by diarrhea.



Leonard and Gertrude Dahm

P. LEONARD, named after a great uncle Leendert Dam.

He was a farmer and lived in the Taintor, Peoria area. Leonard liked to work with chickens and was the first in the area to raise chickens on a volume basis. He lost his wife, Gertrude, due to cancer and Leen died of emphyzema. Leen was a member of the Christian Reformed Church.

Leonard born Mar. 30, 1905; died June 15, 1971. Married Feb. 22, 1934 to Gertrude Bandstra, born Feb. 17, 1910; died Oct. 1, 1961. Their children:

1. Geneva Jean born Feb. 22, 1935, married Apr. 7, 1955 to Gerald James Rozenboom born Aug. 14, 1934, operates a farm machine repair shop. Their children:
 - a. Wavern Dean born Nov. 10, 1956, married Jan. 13, 1978 to Norma Jean Groenenboom born Dec. 28, 1954.
 - b. Dennis Wayne born July 11, 1960, married Sept. 4, 1980 to Kathleen Ann Hormann, born Aug. 10, 1962.
 - c. Debra Sue born Aug. 17, 1961, married Aug. 23, 1979 to Fred E.

Van Ee born June 21, 1956.
d. Merlin Jay born Feb. 18, 1963



Geneva Dahm Family

Back row: Debra, Gerald, Geneva and Wavern. Front row: Dennis and Merlin

2. Donald James, born Oct. 26, 1941. PHD in chemistry, engineer Montsanto Chemical Co.; 6812 Cranford Drive, Centerville, Ohio. Married June 5, 1964 to Arlene Faye Tysseling born Sept. 19, 1942. Their children:
 - a. Jeffery Michael born Apr. 7, 1968
 - b. Kevin Douglas born Nov. 7, 1969
 - c. Melissa Lee born June 21, 1972 (adopted)



Donald Dahm Family

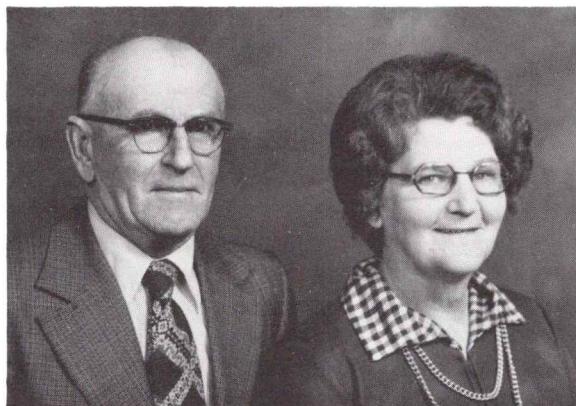
3. Beverly Ann born Dec. 5, 1948, beauty operator and currently attending college at Kirksville, Missouri. Married Oct. 29, 1971 to Ronald Hoyt, born Feb. 20, 1938, divorced.



Beverly Hoyt

Q. CORNIE, named after his maternal step-grandmother Cornelia Van Lughtenburg Groenenboom.

Cornie was a farmer in the Peoria area. In early years he was cook after his mother died and for the four bachelor brothers who were farming. He now lives in Pella with his wife, Tena, and they are members of the Christian Reformed Church.



Cornie and Tena Dahm

Cornie born Apr. 8, 1908, married Jan. 15, 1942 to Tena Bandstra born Feb. 27, 1917. Their children:

1. Rosemary born Feb. 21, 1944, receptionist for publishing company in Minneapolis and was a former teacher. Unmarried.
2. Marvin Lowell born Feb. 7, 1947, a farmer, New Sharon, Iowa. Married Nov. 8, 1968 to Linda Louise Vande Wal, born Aug. 31, 1949. Their children:
 - a. LeAnn Michelle born May 15, 1969

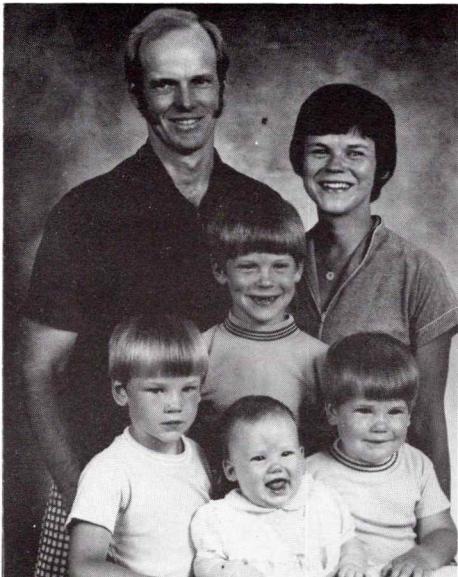
- b. Lance Allen born May 3, 1971
- c. Laird Ryan born Oct. 6, 1973
3. Carmen Lou born Feb. 1, 1951, married Apr. 16, 1971 to Frank Rietsma born Mar. 21, 1949, a farmer, New Sharon, Iowa. Their children:
 - a. Mark David born May 12, 1972
 - b. Justin Frank born Oct. 21, 1975
 - c. Curtis Wayne born Oct. 12, 1977
 - d. Stephanie Dawn born Oct. 3, 1979



Rosemary Dahm



Marvin Lowell Dahm Family
Marvin, Linda, Lance, LeAnn and Laird

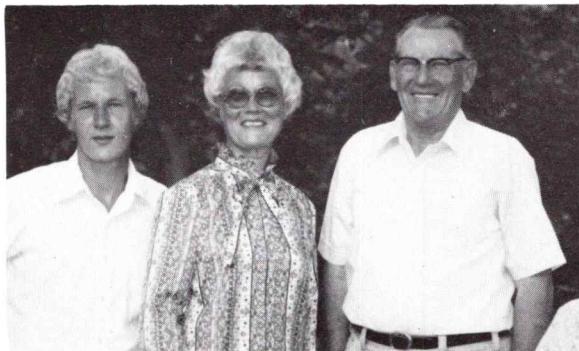


Carmen Dahm Family

Frank, Carmen, Mark, Justin, Stephanie and Curtis

R. ARIE, named after his great grandfather Arij Dam.

Arie was closely related with his brother Cornie for many years in farming. In later years when their families were growing, each had their own enterprise. He farmed in the Peoria area until his retirement to Pella where he now lives and attends the Christian Reformed Church.



Greg, Cora and Arie Dahm

Arie born Mar. 30, 1910, married Dec. 30, 1941 to Cora J. De Jong, born Oct. 6, 1920. (Pella, Iowa) Their children:

1. Karen Kaye born Nov. 27, 1944, operates a fabric shop in Prairie Ci-

ty. Married Aug. 7, 1962 to Lambert Vander Beek born Apr. 2, 1943, a barber in Prairie City, Iowa. Their children:

- a. Vicky Lynn born Mar. 21, 1963
- b. Douglas Jay born Dec. 17, 1965
- c. Jeffery Dean born Apr. 30, 1970



Karen Dahm Family

Douglas, Lambert, Vicky, Karen and Jeffery

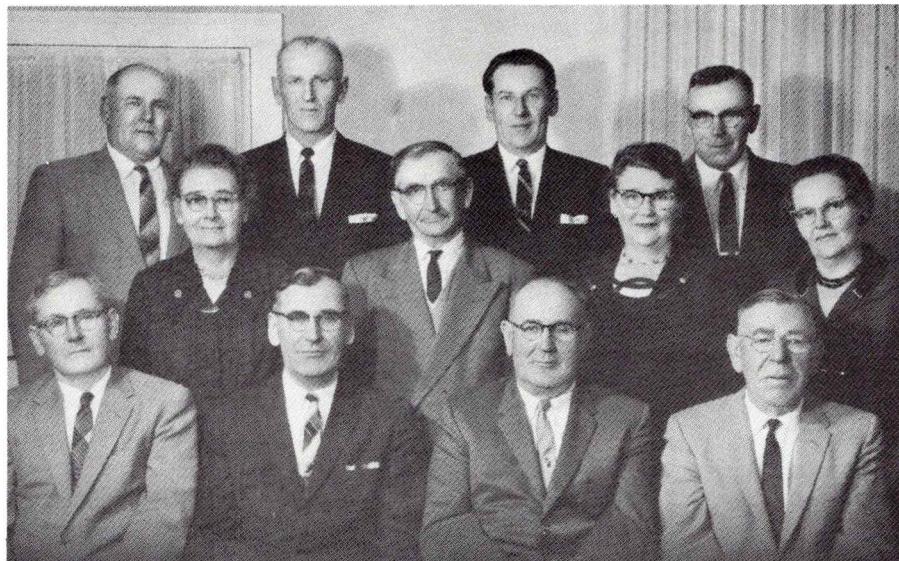
2. Judith Raye born Nov. 27, 1944; New Sharon, Iowa. Married Sept. 5, 1963 to Loren Van Gorp, born May 21, 1942, a farmer. Their children:
 - a. Steven Lee born July 26, 1966
 - b. Scott Arlan born Mar. 24, 1969
 - c. Shawn born Nov. 22, 1971
 - d. Stacy Lynn born Oct. 15, 1977



Judith Dahm Family

Loren, Judy, Steve, Scott, Sharon and Stacy

3. Gregory born July 25, 1954, accountant in Des Moines for Ganensky Co.



50th Anniversary

The Dahm's 50th and 25th Anniversary in the United States. Front row L-R: Jacob, Peter F., Joe, Henry. Middle row: Helen, John, Nellie, Stella. Back row: Leonard, Cornie, Arie and Bert



25th Anniversary

Tidbits of Interest

These tidbits were found during our research and should be considered part of the Groenenboom genealogy and are here recorded for the interest of the descendants of Jacob Dam.

1650 Willem Vlasblom born

1680 Corstiaan Vlasblom born, later married Stientje Nugteren also born in 1680.

1708 Willem Vlasblom born

1738 Willem Vlasblom married Marytje Dronk

Aug. 14, 1746 Stientje Vlasblom born

1752 Aart Hendriks De Deugd born

April 12, 1776 Aart De Deugd and Stientje Vlasblom were married. The record says that Stientje was very thrifty and had saved 300 guilders. Perhaps this is the reason Aart who was 24 years old married this unclaimed jewel of 30 years. Aart had also saved 300 guilders and owned a heifer calf as well.

July 4, 1776 While Benjamin Franklin and John Hancock were signing the Declaration of Independence an equally important event took place in Kyfhoek in Holland. Aart de Deugd signed a purchase agreement with the heirs of Aart Nugteren for a tract of land containing flaxbarn and other buildings and house No. 7 next to the Kyfhoek church. In all likelihood this property was purchased from cousins, as Aart's grandmother was a Nugteren. This is where they started family life together.

May 25, 1777 Marijchie Aart's daughter (de Deugd) born and baptized.

May 5, 1778 Aart De Deugd and Stientje Vlasblom made out their will and testament, and now marrying Marijn Dekker made out a joint will with her new husband in favor of the longest living heir.

Jan. 13, 1785 Aart de Deugd's mother-in-law, Maarijchie Dronk who was a widow

June 19, 1786 Aart De Deugd purchased from Huig Dekker a house numbered No. 4 and barn

on a large tract of ground together with an orchard by the Kyfhoek church for 1200 guilders. A tax of 15 stuvers (pennies) to be paid to the church. This property lays next to house No. 5.

1794 Aart De Deugd had his name imprinted in Bible which was found in the attic of J. W. Huyser, whose mother Marrijchie Van Gilst was a great granddaughter of Aart De Deugd.

1790-1795 The traditional record from Aart De Deugd states that in November of one of these years, when the French had overrun Holland at the time of Napoleon, there was a revolutionary group called Freedom Equality and Brotherhood. They came from the Westzijde, which is that part of the district of Ridderkerk laying between the Zwaan and the Zwet, to the farm singing and chanting: "At Hendrik Huijsen's farm we stop now. He has just butchered a fatted cow." He received these people under duress, fed them bread and meat and all the beer they wanted. After this episode they left for further exploitations with their drunken brawls. This farm was located next to Napoleon's National Highway which extended from Belgium through Breda, Moerdijk, Dordt, Rotterdam to the Hague.

The traditional record continues saying that during these perilous times of Napoleonic devastation, people hid money, jewels, silver and other valuables. Aart De Deugd also hid among other valuables, silver money buried it in the barn under the cow stalls. After some time he dug it up and found it so tarnished that it could not be recognized or used. It now became the task of his daughter Marrijchie to rub and polish the silver money to make it presentable for public use.

August 14, 1795 Marijchie Dronk, widow of Willem Vlasblom and wife of Marijn Dekker passes away. This was the grandmother of Maarijchie De Deugd.

April 28, 1797 Joost Pieter de Rondt of Zijndrecht buys from the heirs of Jakob Gysbertz Nugteren a farm of 32 hectares (80 acres) with house No. 5, orchard, cultivated and grassland for 430 guilders per hectare. This farm lays in the Kyfhoek Polder near the church and was purchased for delivery to the widow of Anthonie Straterus Vrouwe Adriana Alleta van Gelsdorp put in trust for her two minor children.

June 16, 1797 Aart de Deugd buys from Adrians Alleta van Gelsdorp the No. 5 house and 1 hectare of land from her recently purchased farm for 2600 guilders. The remaining 31 hectares Aart leases for 14 years.

August 25, 1797 The guardian of the above two minor children delivers the deed for Aart De Deugd's possession.

May 1, 1798 Marrijchie De Deugd marries Frans Van Gilst

April 1, 1799 Marijchie Dronk's estate was settled and divided. Her estate was worth nearly 40,000 guilders and divided thus. Her husband received 25,000 guilders and her three children Korstiaan, Dirk and Stientje Vlasbloom each 5000 guilders. So Aart De Deugd and his wife had more money to invest.

1799 Aart De Deugd builds a new house (to replace No. 5) for his daughter, Marrijchie (married to Frans Van Gilst) who had a newly born daughter, Adrianna. The stone above the front door is placed in her honor and marked A. F. van Gilst 1799.

March 1, 1811 Frans Van Gilst renews the lease on the land formerly leased by Aart De Deugd for another 14 years. He rents from the husband of the daughter of Adriana Aletta van Gelsdorp. His title and name is rather impressive. High, well born, Lord, Mr. Johan Gerard v. Olde Barneveld, etc.

Jan. 25, 1820 Aart De Deugd passed away aged 68.

October 14, 1821 Stientje Vlasblom passes away aged 75.

This ends the first chapter of the recorded tradition of the De Deugd era and of his accumulation of land in the Kyfhoek area.

Marrijchie De Deugd, the only child of Aart De Deugd married Frans van Gilst and without doubt inherited the whole area of farmland accumulated by her father. This is based on the fact that her granddaughter Piaternella van Gilst, later married to Gysbertus Groenenboom, lived on the farm next to the Kyfhoek church formerly occupied by Aart De Deugd. Another granddaughter, Maaritjie, daughter of Willem Van Gilst later married to Aart Huyser is known to have been born on the second house east of the church referred to as the place of house No.5 built by Aart De Deugd. Descendants of Willem Van Gilst are still living here today. Aart Huyser, son of Lyntje Van Gilst is known to have lived in the first house east of the church. Here also was born, M. W. Huyser, father of Arvena.

Pieter Frans Van Gilst, brother of Piaternella Groenenboom owned land around the church, no doubt also required by inheritance from the former De Deugd estate.

Chapter XI

Leendert Dam

6. Leendert born July 27, 1868, died December 6, 1948. Married Sept. 29, 1893 to Jannetje Langedoen born Sept. 10, 1867, died July 8, 1956. After Leendert's marriage he moved to a small village a few miles from his hometown of Zuid Beijerland by name of Zuidzyde. Here he operated an "inn" — what we call a coffee shop. This was not at all to his liking and in approximately 1896 he started a small general store where he also sold bread and rusk. This was delivered to his store three times a week from his brother's bakery in Nieuwe Beijerland by dog cart and later by pony cart.

As his family increased, he needed larger living quarters so in 1902 he moved to a larger home where the family lived until 1911 when he moved to Nieuwe Beijerland. There he purchased his brother Jacob's bakery after Jacob left for America. This was again a challenge for Leendert as he was allergic to wheat flour, this also being the reason why he did not pursue the bakery trade in his younger years. But now there was hope. A young man by name of Karel Vander Linden, had been trained by Leendert's father in the Zuid Beijerland bakery and was willing to work in Leendert's bakery and train his sons to become bakers. Karel stayed there until January 1912 when he departed for America. Karel was engaged to be married to Leendert's niece, Piaternella, who worked in the Zuid Beijerland bakery.

Shortly after Leendert became established in this village in 1912 he became elder in the Hervormde Church where he served for twenty years. Then for twenty years he



Leendert Dam

served as counselor to the poor, sick and needy in the community. He would, at his own expense, always have a package of tobacco for the men. At his 75th birthday, he retired from this service also.

Leendert, like his father, Jan Johannes, had a high pitched, shrill voice. He died at the advanced age of 80 years in 1948. They had six children:

- A. Hilligje born Jan. 4, 1894, died Dec. 7, 1969. Married H. Boender, no children.
- B. Engeltje born Jan. 27, 1896. Married H. Bakker, they had two daughters.
- C. Jan Johannes born Aug. 6, 1898. Married Sandreen Verhulp, Jan. 24, 1924, died April 3, 1925. Married Hendrika Reedyk Oct. 21, 1926. They had one daughter: Jannetje, born 1928.

Jan Johannes, the eldest son, learned the baker's trade from Karel Vander Linden together with his brother Jacob. When the third brother Leendert finish-

ed school, he was to learn the trade and Jan worked at various bakeries in the area and for two years served in the cavalry of the Dutch army. After his time was served in 1920 he worked in a cake factory in Dordrecht for awhile and then started a cake bakery of his own in Nieuw Beijerland. He would use his father's ovens and worked at night as the family bakery was used in daytime baking bread and rusk. The cake was sold along with the bread and rusk on the daily routes.

In 1926, Jan bought a bakery in Mijnsheerenland which he operated for 21½ years, but sold the bakery because he had flour allergy problems. From there he moved to Rotterdam where he became warehouse dispatcher for a large commercial bakery having 185 delivery wagons. After 17 years he

retired. He has a daughter who is a nurse and married to a minister, H. de Zeeuw and a granddaughter who is head nurse in a large hospital in Amsterdam.

- D. Jacob, born April 1, 1900, died May 11, 1969, a baker. Married, they had one child. Married, they had two children.
- E. Leendert born Sept. 15, 1902, baker in Nieuw Beijerland. He was unmarried, died June 13, 1981.
- F. Cornelis born Sept. 12, 1908, baker in Nieuw Beijerland. Married Riek Van Dyk, they had 5 children: Leendert, Johannes, Cornelis, Pia and Jannie.

Leendert Dam and all of his descendants lived in the Netherlands with the exception of Pia, daughter of Cornelis, who is married and lives in British Columbia, Canada.



Leendert Dam Family
L to R: Jacob, Leendert, Jan, Cornelis, Engeltje and Hilligje

Chapter XII

Janna Dam Villerius



Janna Dam Family
Frans, Janna, Jan and Lyntje. (Small boy not identified)

7. Janna Johanna Dam born Mar. 2, 1876; died May 20, 1931. Married May 18, 1899 to Frans Jacob Villerius born Aug. 14, 1872; died Jan. 18, 1942.

Janna lived in Goudswaard, also known as the Koorndyk. Her husband operated a general merchandise store. They had three children: Lyntje, Jan Johannes and Andries.

1. Lyntje Hilligje born Apr. 24, 1902. Married May 6, 1942 to P. Naaktgeboren, a farmer living at Zuid Beijerland, born May 2, 1883, died May 19, 1968. They had three children:
 - a. Pieter born Dec. 19, 1944, married to Riet Kievit, they had two children:

1. Pieter born Mar. 31, 1972
2. Astrid born July 26, 1974
- b. Janna born May 8, 1947, married Gerard van Ameyde. They had four children:
 1. Linda born Jan. 22, 1972
 2. Bertus born June 11, 1973
 3. Henrietta born July 20, 1974
 4. Mathilda born Nov. 30, 1977
- c. Frans born May 8, 1949, married Gina Fok, they had one child:
 1. Peter born Dec. 7, 1975
2. Jan Johannes born Jan. 14, 1905, died Sept. 20, 1971. Married Jan. 21, 1930 to Lamberta Maria Vander Zwaan, born May 15, 1911. They had four children:

a. Frans Jacob born June 12, 1931, a minister in the Reformed Church at South Branch, New Jersey.

Frans and his family visit their fatherland frequently. On his first visit he asked whether he might preach in his home church in Goudswaard, but was refused because of the extreme conservative Calvinism prevalent in his hometown. He was asked to preach in the big St. Laurenskerk in Rotterdam and many from Goudswaard were present to hear this American preach. He was later again refused the pulpit in his mother church and then preached in Oud Beijerland where again many of the congregation of Goudswaard were present.

Married July 12, 1956 to Maaike Belia De Jong, born July 7, 1937. They had two children:

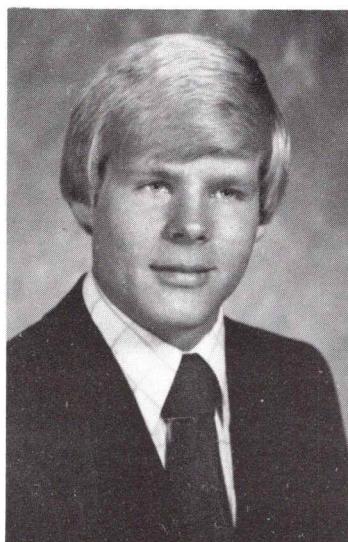
1. Betty Jane born July 10, 1958,

married to Daniel Notz, a farmer in Hillsborough, New Jersey, born Aug. 31, 1931.

2. John Peter born Aug. 3, 1960.
- b. Pieter born Sept. 12, 1932, operates general merchandise store in Goudswaard. Married June 11, 1969 to Jitske Riendersma, born May 30, 1935. They had one child:
1. Atje Lamberta born July 24, 1970
- c. Janna Johanna born Dec. 30, 1936. Married Aug. 29, 1968 to G.J.H. Gijmink born Mar. 31, 1913, minister in the Hervormde Church in Rotterdam; died Mar. 27, 1979.
- d. Jacoba Anna born Aug. 10, 1941. Married Nov. 21, 1967 to A.J. Korpela, born Jan. 1, 1939, dealer in steel and iron products in Oud Beijerland.
3. Andries born Feb. 2, 1906; died Jan. 4, 1907.



Frank and Maaike De Jong
Villerius



Betty Villerius



John Pieter Villerius

Chapter XIII Part 1

Jan Johannes Dam – Sara Maria Goote

Chapter XIII was researched and written by Sylvia Kempema, a granddaughter of Jan Dam. At her request we are including the genealogy of her grandmother, Sara Goote, in Part 2 of this chapter.

J.B.D.

The ancestors of Sara Maria Goote, my grandmother, as far as I have been able to trace, lived in the Dutch province of Zeeland. Sara was the third child in a large family of 19 children. The ancestral Goote family lived in several towns in Zeeland and their family trade was that of basketmakers. The baskets were used to store and to sell the fish which were abundant in the Zeeland waterways.

Sara's childhood was a happy, contented one, secure in traditional family life. Her childhood was spent in learning the feminine skills of fine needlework, knitting and crocheting. Clothes for the large family were all handmade and it took many skillful fingers to knit all the items for the family. From her parents she was also taught the Christian religion and she remained a fine Christian lady all her life.

This idyllic family circle was broken with the death of Sara's mother at the age of 42, a victim of an influenza epidemic. The father remarried very soon and with the coming of a stepmother, the older children began leaving home. Sara left to work for her uncle, Rev. Cornelis Goote, who was the pastor of the Gereformeerde Kerk in Zuid Beijerland. It was here that she met her future husband, Jan Johannes Dam, son and namesake of the village baker.



Jan Dam

Jan Johannes Dam and Sara Goote were married in Middelburg on April 17, 1901. Sara was very pleased to be married to the village baker as this was one of the more prestigious businesses in town. Jan is said to have been a good-natured and jovial person, who had many friends. As a young man his task was to go out on the streets to sell bakery goods and groceries.

The bakery was located in a basement with a small grocery store just above, both owned by the family. Sara and Jan lived next door where they soon began raising their family.

The bakery suffered some business and financial problems, so that the business was

taken over by an older brother, Arie, and Jan moved to Den Haag in 1908 and found work as a vegetable vendor.

Meanwhile there was a mysterious stir in the Dam family. It was decided that brother Jacob with his family was to immigrate to America in 1911. Jan decided to accompany him to look over the new country with the possibility that his family might immigrate too. A year later Sara and five of their children joined him. The oldest son, John, was left behind at the insistence of his aged paternal grandfather because John was his favorite, the "stamhouder," and heir to the family bakery business.

So in 1912, this baker from the province of Zuid Holland and his city-reared wife began the difficult task of a new life as an Iowa farmer.

Jan first worked as a hired man for a bachelor near Brooklyn, Iowa, near the town

where Sara's sister, Helena was already living. The family moved into the farm home and the children attended country schools. The family moved several times, farming near the towns of Malcolm, Eddyville and Tracy, Iowa. In 1921, they moved to a larger farm near Ocheydan, Iowa where they lived until 1928.

Jan, always being restless, had read about a new settlement of Hollanders in Quincy, Illinois where conditions were said to be perfect for truck farming. So again the family made a move, this time to Quincy, Illinois. The first year was a success but the second year there was a catastrophic flood on the Mississippi when the levee broke, and everything was washed out. The family was rescued by rowboat, and with other families were cared for by the Red Cross. Jan contracted malaria in Quincy which left him in a weakened condition the rest of his life.

The settlement at Quincy broke up and part of the colony including the Jan Dam family mov-



The Jan Dam Family

L to R: Back row, Marie, Joe, John, Henry, Helen. Front row, Arie, Jan J., Nellie (standing) Joan, Sara. (August, 1923)

ed to Fenton, Illinois where they again took up farming near the Mississippi. Jan died unexpectedly on Dec. 31, 1932 of a heart attack on the farm yard near Fenton at the age of 55 years.

After the death of Jan, Sara continued to live in Fenton with the children who were still home. Her sons bought a grocery store in Fenton and later the family moved to Morrison, Illinois where they bought another grocery store.

Sara made her home with her unmarried children until 1945 when she moved to Chicago and spent her last 18 years in the home of her daughter, Helen. Sara enjoyed keeping busy with her handwork and traveling, and for many years made frequent extended visits to the scattered homes of her children. At the age of eighty she took her first airplane ride to visit her son John, then living in Clifton, New Jersey.

Neither Jan nor Sara ever mastered the English language, but for the most part retained their beloved "Hollandse taal." Twelve children were born to this couple, however four of them died when they were very small. The remaining eight are all living yet. Sara had the misfortune of breaking her hip when she was 83 years old and her last years were spent in a wheelchair. She died at the home of her daughter Helen at the age of 89 and is buried with her husband in the small cemetery at Fenton, Illinois.

For Jan Johannes Dam, the American Dream was a personal disappointment. This baker from a village in Holland was not prepared for the strenuous life of an Iowa farmer. The family moved often, always in search of economic security, but never finding it. J.J. Dam died before he was old, and as with most immigrants, his descendants reaped the benefits of the American Dream.

1. Maria Adriana Dahm: 1725 18th Street, Rock Valley, Iowa 51247

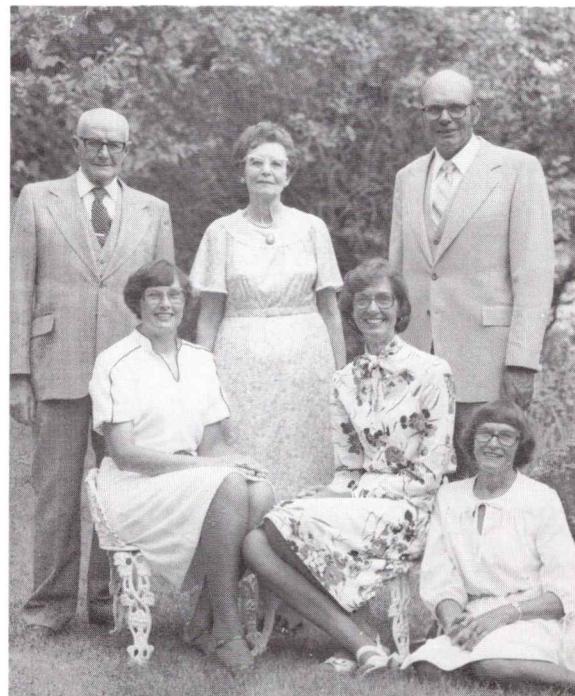
Maria Dahm and Case Harthoorn met at the home of her uncle, Jacob Dahm near Peoria when they were teenagers. Case was also the son of a recent immigrant and had befriended John, the son of Jacob Dahm. For many years it was just a friend-

ship, and then the Harthoorn family moved to Lyon County in northwest Iowa. A few years later when the Dahm family moved to Ocheydan, the romance was renewed until they were married at the farm home of the bride on Jan. 6, 1926.

Case and Marie lived on several farms in the Doon and Alvord, Iowa area until they bought the family farm west of Doon in 1942. They were members of both the Chr. Ref. church in Doon and the last 30 years of the Calvin Chr. Ref. church in Rock Valley. They retired to their home in Rock Valley in 1970 after which Case worked part-time for eight years as maintenance man at Hope Haven.

Case and Marie observed their 55th wedding anniversary in 1981. Marie remains in good health although walking is difficult since she fractured her knee in 1974. She continues to live in their home in Rock Valley.

Maria Adriana Dahm born Feb. 12, 1902, Zuid Beijerland, South Holland. Married on Jan. 6, 1926 to Cornelius Gerrit Harthoorn born Aug. 27, 1900, died May 29,



Marie Dahm Family
L to R: Case, Trudy, Marie, Nell, Cornie,
Sylvia. (June 16, 1980)

1981, Barneveld, Gelderland, The Netherlands. Their children: Sylvia Marie, Cornelius Gerrit, Nellie Mae, and Gertrude Leona.

A. Sylvia: dabbles in family history and drives for Hope Haven and River Valley School, RR 1, Box 312, Rock Valley, Iowa 51247.

Born Jan. 15, 1928, married on Feb. 21, 1947 to Raymond H. Kempema — occupation self-employed trucker, born Aug. 21, 1921. Children:

1. Charles Dale: born Aug. 6, 1947, married Joan Bessey born Apr. 19, 1951, on Sept. 6, 1969.
 - a. Jacqueline Marie born Dec. 11, 1970
 - b. David Lee born Nov. 13, 1973
 - c. Kerri Lynn born July 2, 1980
2. Marvin Gene born Nov. 7, 1948, married on Jan. 26, 1968 to Cheryl Van Hill born Aug. 9, 1948, died Apr. 17, 1980.
 - a. Julie Ann born July 2, 1969
 - b. Shari Lynn born Feb. 12, 1972
3. Kathleen Marie (Kathy) born July 21, 1951, married on June 5, 1971 to Daniel Van Voorst, born Mar. 21, 1952.
 - a. Brady Jon born June 16, 1975
 - b. Jodi Beth born Nov. 14, 1978
4. Susan Rae born Sept. 21, 1957
5. Carolyn born May 31, 1962

B. Cornie: Doon, Iowa 51235, farmer, lives on the family farm. Born Dec. 29, 1930, married on Feb. 10, 1953 to Grace Kooi born Nov. 2, 1929. Children:

1. Bonita Gayle (Bonnie) born Dec. 3, 1955, married June 7, 1974 to Douglas Vanden Bosch born July 25, 1953.
 - a. Amy Gayle born Nov. 28, 1974
 - b. Keith Douglas born Sept. 3, 1976
 - c. Kyle Dale born Nov. 17, 1978
2. Lora Dawn born Apr. 5, 1957, married on Mar. 9, 1979 to Paul De Boer, born Apr. 24, 1959.
 - a. Tami Dawn born July 3, 1980
3. Doreen Gay born Aug. 16, 1959, died at birth
4. Corwin Gene born Jan. 23, 1961
5. Barry Jon born Dec. 18, 1963

C. Nell: former teacher, now studying for her degree in Social Work, 1753 32nd

Street S.E., Grand Rapids, Michigan 49508. Born Sept. 30, 1932, married Oct. 7, 1970 to Fred Slot, born Aug. 31, 1921, occupation — electrician at Butterworth Hospital. No children.

D. Trudy: 4905 Cynthia Drive, Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57101. Born Aug. 21, 1936, married May 18, 1959 to Leonard Bouma, born Oct. 3, 1934, Wholesale Candy Dealer. Children:

1. Denise Kaye born Jan. 16, 1960, married Jan. 18, 1980 to Dale Lien born June 4, 1960.
2. Daryl Lee born Apr. 19, 1961
3. Craig Eugene born Aug. 27, 1962
4. Teresa Jane born Mar. 17, 1965
5. Timothy Roy born June 8, 1967
6. Chad Eric born Aug. 13, 1971

2. Hilligje Dam born Jan. 25, 1903 in Zuid Beijerland, South Holland, died Apr. 6, 1903 of pneumonia.

3. Hilligje Dahm: 18332 Hickory Street, Lansing, Illinois 60438

Helen was the first of the children of Jan and Sara to be married. She met her future husband, Richard Vande Kieft, at a wedding reception at Tracy, Iowa. Most of their courtship was done by correspondence as the Dahm family moved to Ocheydan the following year. They were married on August 27, 1923 in the Ocheydan Chr. Ref. Church.

Rich and Helen lived for 2½ years on a farm near Tracy, then they moved to Grand Rapids, Michigan where Rich was employed as a carpenter. Rich attended evening classes to finish a course in drafting in the line of engineering, and received his professional engineer license on Dec. 31, 1946.

They lived in Grand Rapids, Chicago, Morrison, and then back to Chicago and are now retired in Lansing, Illinois.

Helen is very talented in all types of handwork, especially knitting. She has always made her home a welcome gathering spot for all the scattered members of the Jan Dam family.

Hilligje Dahm born Dec. 18, 1903, Zuid Beijerland, South Holland. Married Aug. 27,



Helen Dahm Family

L to R: Don Finck, Mignon, Earle, Richard, Helen, Dick and
Wilfred (August 24, 1973)

Occasion: Rich and Helen's 50th Anniversary

1923 to Richard Vander Kieft born May 16, 1894. Their children: Wilfred James, Richard Arthur, Earle Eugene and Mignon Helen.

- A. Wilfred born Jan. 30, 1927 — lives at home and is a Draftsman.
- B. Dick born Aug. 22, 1932 — lives at home and is a Designer Draftsman.
- C. Earle — Director of Management Info System Computer; 1418 Cedarwood, San Mateo, California 94403. Born July 19, 1936, married Feb. 6, 1975 to Ellen Yap born Jan. 5, 1941. They have 1 son:
1. Erick Earle born Sept. 9, 1980
- D. Mignon — Registered Nurse; 27 West 335 Fleming Drive, Winfield, Illinois 60190. Born Aug. 15, 1940, married Jan. 14, 1961 to Donald Fink, born Aug. 8, 1936, Part Owner of ACE Hardware Store. Their children:
 - 1. Jeffrey Lee born Aug. 14, 1961
 - 2. Janna Lea born Nov. 25, 1964
 - 3. Pamela Lynn born Mar. 18, 1969
- 4. Jan Johannes Dahm: 1430 Derbyshire S.E., Grand Rapids, Michigan 49508

At the age of seven, John was separated from his family. Because he was the oldest son and namesake of both his father and grandfather, it was decided that he should stay behind in Holland and inherit the bakery business.

John was reared by his paternal Uncle Arie, who was a bachelor. He spent several years working in the bakery, but always longing to join his family in America. Finally at the age of seventeen he was allowed to leave Holland and joined his family on the farm near Ocheydan.

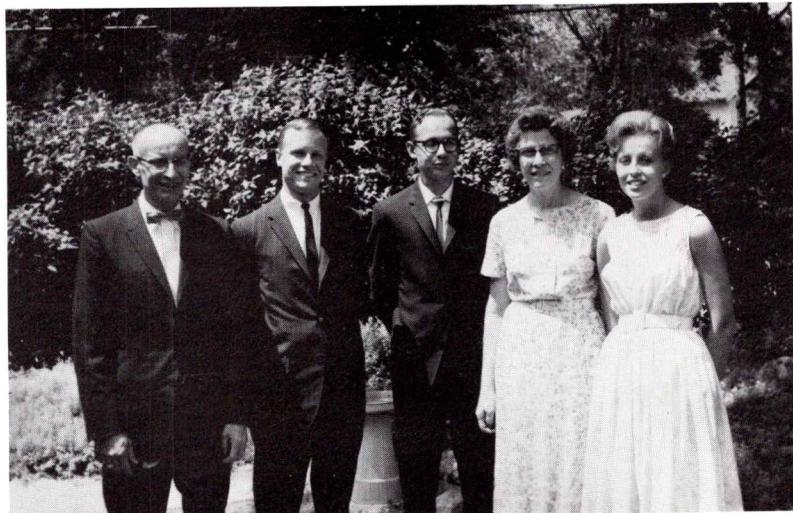
John spent three years working on the family farm, then began the dream of his life, getting an education. At the age of 21 he started high school in Des Moines, graduated in three years, then went on to Calvin College and took a three-year pre-medical course at Calvin College.

He did not pursue this, but became active in social work and was a Boy Scout Executive for eight years. Later he spent twenty years as the manager of the Christian Seaman's and Immigrant's Home in Hoboken, New Jersey.

When this home closed up John returned to college to obtain his degree in secondary education and taught Industrial Arts for seven years.

He is married to a former school teacher, Jacoba Schelling, a native of Shepherd, Montana. John and Jacoba made their first return visit to Holland in 1978. It was a nostalgic experience for John as he revisited many of the places he had lived as a young man.

John and Jacoba are now retired in their home in Grand Rapids, Michigan.



John Dahm Family

L to R: John Sr., John Jr., Henry, Jacoba and Sarah. (June, 1965)

Jan Johannes Dahm born Nov. 24, 1904, Zuid Beijerland, South Holland. Married Aug. 25, 1938 to Jacoba Schelling born May 25, 1913. Their children: Jan Johannes, Henry Eugene and Sara Petronella.

- A. Dr. John J. born Jan. 4, 1940; 3316 S. 17th St., Lincoln, Nebraska 68502. Assistant State Director of Corrections, married June 25, 1965 to Susan Wynbeek, born Sept. 28, 1942. Their children:
 - 1. John Michael born May 4, 1969
 - 2. Peter David born Jan. 4, 1972
- B. Henry Eugene born May 29, 1941; 342 Kropf S.E., Grand Rapids, Mich. 49508. Henry is disabled and lives in his own trailer home.
- C. Sarah born Feb. 9, 1943; 1132 Ottawa St., Grand Haven, Michigan 49417. Media Specialist—Spring Lake Public Schools, married Sept. 4, 1961 to Philip H. Schoo. Their children:
 - 1. Rachelle Denise born Apr. 23, 1962
 - 2. Suzanne Elizabeth born June 19, 1964. Divorced in 1974, married Nov. 3, 1978 to Robert Gutek, born Mar. 23, 1946, Media Specialist, Grand Rapids Junior College.

5. Johannes Dahm: 1034 Village Lane, Jenison, Michigan 49428

Joe spent his early years in working for the family on their various farms. He work-

ed one season in Quincy after which he left home to work in Chicago and first heard of the disastrous flood when he read about it in the Chicago Tribune.

Joe worked several years in Chicago before he rejoined his family in Fenton where he worked in the grocery store in Fenton, and later on in Morrison with his brother Arie, until he sold the grocery store in 1949 and operated an egg route for four years.

Joe met his prospective bride Jeanette Greenfield through his sister Nell, while both were teaching in Chicago. They were married at the bride's home on June 30, 1943 near Sibley, Iowa.

In 1953 the family moved to Holland, Mich. where again they bought and operated a grocery store for eight years. Later he sold out to work in a supermarket.

After the children were grown, Jeanette returned to teaching and taught 13 years in Maplewood Christian School.

Joe and Jeanette have recently moved to their new home in Jenison. Although semi-retired, Joe continues working part-time in a hardware store in Holland, Michigan.

Johannes Dahm born Dec. 26, 1905, Zuid Beijerland, South Holland. Married June 30, 1943 to Jeanette Greenfield born Aug. 23, 1910. Their children: John Carroll, William Roger, Marianne Ruth and Joe Allen.



Joe Dahm Family
L to R: Marianne, Bill, Joe Jr., John, Jeanetta and Joe (1966)

- A. John Carroll: 1034 Village Lane, Jenison, Michigan 49428. Sells insurance to small businesses. Born Apr. 21, 1944, married Jan. 14, 1977 to Linda Marie Johnson born Mar. 16, 1949. Divorced Aug. 15, 1979.
- B. William: 1143 McIntyre, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48105. Executive Director of Michigan Evaluation Resources Center. Born Sept. 3, 1945, married May 30, 1966 to Marilyn Erffmeyer born Jan. 1, 1945. She will graduate from dental school in 1981. Children:
 - 1. Sandra Jeanne born Oct. 22, 1971
 - 2. Valerie Ann born Jan. 11, 1974
- C. Marianne: 824 N. Blacks Corners Rd., Imlay City, Michigan 48105. Born Sept. 8, 1946, married July 8, 1972 to Marvin J. Benthem born June 29, 1948. He is manager of a Ford Body Shop in Marlette, Michigan. Their children:
 - 1. Michelle Renay born Nov. 11, 1976
 - 2. Anthony Jay born June 5, 1978
- D. Joe: 162 W. 37th St., Holland, Michigan. General Product Manager for Robert Shaw Control Co. Born July 1, 1949, married May 29, 1972 to Linda Lou Laarma born Nov. 11, 1952. Their children:
 - 1. Angela Regan born Dec. 6, 1976
 - 2. Joseph Allen born Mar. 8, 1980
- 6. Hendrick Dahm: 1113 Elm S.W., De Motte, Indiana 46310.

Henry spent his early years working for his father and he is the only son who chose farming as his life's vocation.

Henry met his first wife, Henrietta Berghorst, on the banks of the Mississippi, near Quincy, Illinois in the spring of 1929 while both were out for a walk following the disastrous spring flood of that year.

Later both Henry and Henrietta moved to Roseland in Chicago in search of work and the romance continued until they were married in 1934.

This was the time of the Great Depression, and work was hard to find, but Henry got a job as a hired man for a farmer near De Motte, Indiana. He worked here until he bought his own farm near De Motte in 1938 and he farmed there until 1972. Henrietta passed away in 1967 after a long illness.

Henry lived alone until he married May Boer, a widow of three years and a family friend for some thirty years. May is the mother of three grown daughters. Henry and Mae are now retired in their present home in De Motte.

Hendrick Dahm born June 24, 1907, Zuid Beijerland, South Holland. Married Feb. 17, 1934 to Henrietta Berghorst, born Sept. 29, 1908, died May 19, 1967. Remarried on July 8, 1971 to May Olthoff Boer born May 1, 1920. Children: Carolyn Jane and Henry Bertus.

A. Carolyn Jane born Nov. 28, 1939,



Henry Dahm
Henry B., Henry and Carolyn



Henrietta

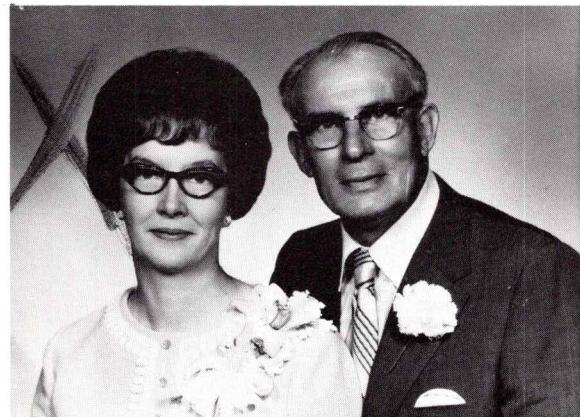
DeMotte, Indiana 46310. Married Feb. 28, 1958 to Howard Belstra born Dec. 24, 1934, long distance truck driver. Their children:

1. Karen Kay born Oct. 6, 1964
2. Ronald Howard born Mar. 6, 1969
- B. Henry Bertus born Apr. 6, 1943, Wheatfield, Indiana 46392. Henry is a farmer, and lives on the family farm. Married on Mar. 17, 1962 to Beverly Hamstra born May 24, 1945. Children:
 1. Debra Kay born Aug. 22, 1962
 2. Henry Bertus Jr. born Oct. 5, 1963
 3. Richard Allen born Mar. 22, 1968

7. Adriaan Johannes Marinus Dam born in Zuid Beijerland on July 30, 1908. Died Aug. 20, 1910 of brain hemorrhage after injury in fall against a stone wall in Den Haag, South Holland.
8. Arie Dahm: 610 West Morris Street, Morrison, Illinois 61270

Arie has always been known for his love of airplanes. Even as a child he was fascinated by anything that could fly, even flies. For many years he owned and flew his own airplane and delighted in giving free rides to anyone with enough courage to accompany him.

Arie was born in Den Haag and was only two years old when he came to America. He also spent his early years in helping on the family farm and survived the Mississippi flood in a chicken loft from where he swam from one building to another to do the chores.



Mae and Henry Dahm

He has lived both in Morrison, Ill. and De Motte, Ind. for most of his adult life. He has held many jobs, in factories and in being self-employed. As a young man he lost three fingers in a lawn mower factory.

His longest business venture was in De Motte, where he owned a cream buying station and a wholesale egg business for 28 years.

He was married to Josephine Tenboer on June 8, 1938 and they have one daughter, Marilyn. Arie and Josephine now live in Morrison where Arie works part-time in a small coil factory.

In August of 1978, Arie with his daughter, Marilyn, visited in Holland and were able to find both the homes where his parents had formerly lived, which was a very exciting experience for them.

Arie Dahm born Dec. 20, 1909, Den Haag, South Holland. Married June 8, 1938 to Josephine Tenboer born Jan. 20, 1917.



Arie and Josephine Dahm



Marilyn Dahm

Their daughter:

- A. Marilyn Dahm born May 16, 1939, 211 West 106th St. 6-E, New York, New York 10025. Marilyn is Administrative Secretary for the American Lung Association.
9. Neeltje Dam born Mar. 16, 1911 in Den Haag, died Mar. 21, 1911 in Den Haag of tetanus, one week before her father emigrated to America.
10. Neeltje Dahm, 6922 Oakton Street, Niles, Illinois 60648.

Nellie was the first of the Dahm children to be born in America. She received her grade school education in several country schools and attended high school in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

She attended Wheaton College in Chicago for one semester and taught schools for nine years in Fenton, Fulton and Chicago (Roseland Christian) Illinois. During the second World War she returned to school and became a registered nurse. She worked in Veterans Hospitals at Hines, Illinois (3 years) and three years as visiting nurse in Chicago.

She met her future husband, Walter Goslin through a patient for whom she was caring. Walter has worked as an operating engineer for many years and helped in the construction of several skyscrapers in Chicago. Nell has worked in several hospitals and nursing homes in the Chicago area. They have two children, Randy and an adopted daughter Kathy.

Nell and Walter are now semi-retired in their home in Niles, Illinois. They both enjoy camping activities.

Nellie Dahm born Jan. 14, 1913, Guernsey, Iowa. Married May 6, 1950 to Walter Goslin born Nov. 10, 1908. Their children Randy Walter and Kathy Jean.



Nellie Dahm Family
L to R: Randy, Walter, Nellie and Kathy
(Dec. 24, 1980)

- A. Randy: 8 Sandhurst Ct., Streamwood, Illinois 60103. Born Sept. 11, 1952, occupation — computer specialist. Married on April 3, 1976 to Dale Ann Mariano born Apr. 8, 1954 (registered nurse).
 1. Kelly Lynn Goslin born Jan. 18, 1979
 2. Jill Coleen born Mar. 25, 1981

B. Kathy: 6922 Oakton St., Niles, Illinois 60648. Born Nov. 8, 1956, occupation — secretary. Married on May 1, 1976 to Edward LaBay born Aug. 25, 1955, divorced Feb. 18, 1977.

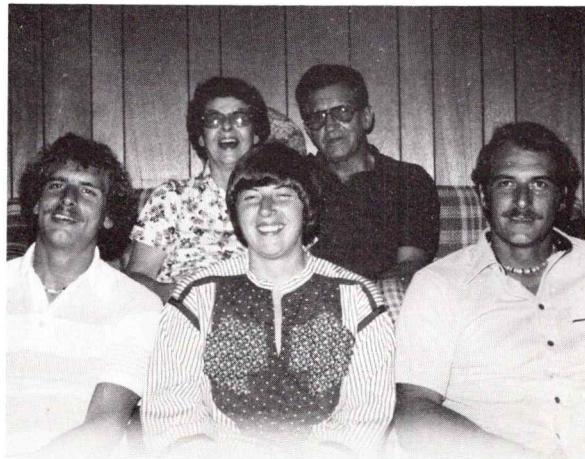
11. Marinus Johannes Dam born Nov. 2, 1914 Malcolm, Iowa, died May 15, 1916, Eddyville, Iowa.

This child was referred to many years later as a "flink kind," (a husky, healthy child) by his mother, Sara. At eighteen months Marinus snatched a dry bean from the kitchen table and put it into his mouth where it lodged in his esophagus. His father took him by train to a doctor in Ottumwa, but he died by choking before the bean could be removed. He is buried in the small cemetery near Eddyville.

12. Johanna Helena Dahm: 6725 West 16th Ave., Hialeah, Florida 33012

The youngest child of the family was born near the little town of Eddyville, Iowa. Joan met her future husband, George Stob, when George was a seminarian and he came to preach in Morrison. George and her brother John were friends at Calvin College and Joan was home recovering from a tonsillectomy.

They have lived in many places, as minister's families do. George has served churches in Sumas, Washington; Burton



Joan Dahm Family

Front row: David, Georgine and Forrest.
Back row: Joan and George Stab (December 1976)

Heights in Grand Rapids; Preakness, New Jersey; Clifton, New Jersey; Wheaton, Illinois; and Washington D.C. George also served as a chaplain in W.W. II and also as a professor at Calvin Seminary.

Joan and her son Forrest lived with her mother while George was absent during the war. George and Joan are retired in Florida but do quite a bit of traveling, especially by air and have made several trips to Europe.

Joan is partially confined to her wheelchair because of MS but always retains a cheerful outlook on life.

Johanna Helena born Dec. 31, 1917, Eddyville, Iowa. Married on July 9, 1937 to George Stob, born May 19, 1907. Their children: Forrest Leon, Georgine Louise and David Llewellyn.

A. Forrest: 1531 N.W. 110 Ave., Pembroke Pines, Florida 33026. Born Jan. 24, 1941, occupation — Eastern Airlines Mechanic. Married on Dec. 13, 1969 to Sharon Ann Lutz born Oct. 3, 1948. Divorced March 1979, one child:
1. Jonathan Forrest born Mar. 15, 1976

B. Georgine: 4469 Avenida del Sol N.E. Albuquerque, N.M. Born Feb. 17, 1948, occupation — University of N.M. Counselor.

C. David: 7509 Carroll Ave., Lakoma Park, Maryland 20012. Born Dec. 6, 1950, occupation — Building Contractor.



J. J. Dahm Family

Eight children of J. J. Dahm and Sara Goote. July 4, 1975 at family reunion in De Motte, Indiana.

L to R: Marie, Helen, John, Joe, Henry, Arie, Nellie and Joan (In order of birth)

Chapter XIII Part 2

The tracing of the families Goote and Cammelot presented many problems. All the records before 1812 were destroyed by fire during W.W. II in the city of Middelburg. However the records of the province of Zeeland were a little more complete. Genealogy for the Goote family before 1800 could be found only in records in the Gereformeerde Kerk in the villages of St. Maartensdijk, Poortvliet and Stavenisse. The marriage certificate of Pieter Cabelot and Catherina de Bruine was found in the files of the Walloon church in Middelburg, a church founded by French Huguenots. Johannes Cabelot, son of Peiter used the same spelling, but his son Johannes in his marriage license spelled his name as Cammelot.

There were a few family legends that are interesting. My grandmother, Sara M. Dahm, had a great distrust of Catholics and knew some of the early history of the persecution and the coming of the French Huguenots to Holland. Sara also related stories told to her by her own maternal grandmother, a widow who used to assist her daughter Maria in caring for her large family. This grandmother lived to be a very old lady of 88 years.

The other vague legend is that something very bad or shameful had happened in the Goote family many years ago, but today no one knows its nature anymore. The fact alluded to is probably the illegitimate birth of Adriaan Goote, Sara's grandfather, born to Adrianna Goote, who was never married. The identity of the child's father is not given, neither in the state nor church records. This child was most likely raised by his grandparents, since the occupation of Clement Goote is given as basket maker, and Adriaan Goote took up the same occupation. Strangely we have not been able to find the date of the death of Adriaan Goote. He was still living in 1871 when his son Johannes

was married, but there is no record of his death in the usual archives.

We will begin a detailed genealogy with the generation that was Sara M. Goote's grandparents.

Adriaan Goote born May 10, 1817 in Stavenisse, married on May 18, 1845 at St. Maartensdyk to Rachel Grijs born June 12, 1816 in Poortvliet. Died Feb. 14, 1873 in Middelburg. Children:

1. Adriana born July 7, 1846 St. Maartensdijk
2. Marinus born Oct. 16, 1847 in St. Maartensdijk, died 1906 of TB. Married Elina Maria Landman, born 1849, died 1951. She lived to be 102 years old. Marinus lived in the city of Vlissingen where he too had a basket factory. This couple had 16 children, several of whom died young. Three sons, Marinus, Arie and William emigrated to America. Rev. Marinus Goote of Grand Rapids is a grandson of this couple.
3. Johannes born Oct. 16, 1847 in St. Martensdijk. Johannes and Marinus were identical twins who appeared so much alike that they sometimes exchanged identities as a family joke.
4. Cornelis born Oct. 22, 1860 at Middelburg, died Nov. 5, 1939 at Voorburg. Married Geertruida Nieuwenhuize, died Sept. 1899. Six children were born to this couple. Remarried in Nov. 1901 to Jacoba Gort born Nov. 15, 1865, died Oct. 13, 1926 in Oud Beijerland. Children:
 - A. Johanna Jacoba born Feb. 19, 1904 at Oud Beijerland
 - B. Cornelis Johannes Jacobus born July 7, 1906 at Oud Beijerland. Cornelis was a minister in the Gereformeerde Kerk, both in Zuid and Oud Beijerland. Those who remember him say that he had a

very pock-marked complexion and was a very stern and strict Calvinist preacher.

Johannes Hubertus Cammelot born Feb. 16, 1816 in Middelburg, died Jan 2, 1858 in Middelburg. Married on June 9, 1843 to Adriana van de Woestijne, born Apr. 25, 1809 in Middelburg, died April 15, 1898 in Middelburg. Children:

1. Saratje born Aug. 13, 1839
2. Johannes born July 28, 1843
3. Dirk Franciscus born Mar. 22, 1846, died Mar. 21, 1904. Married Helena Eliza Geertruida Rijns on July 6, 1870; remarried Sara Flippo on Aug. 17, 1883.
4. Maria Clazina born Apr. 5, 1847, died Nov. 17, 1851

5. Maria Adriana born Oct. 25, 1851. Four years before their marriage a child named Saratje was born to this couple. They were married when he was 27 and she was 34 years old. His occupation was given as day laborer, hers a maid. The father died young, at age 42, leaving the widow alone to rear her four surviving children.

Johannes Goote — Maria Adrianna Cammelot

On March 1, 1871 there appeared at the Staad Huis in Middelburg, Johannes Goote, age 23, occupation basketmaker and Maria A. Cammelot, age 19, occupation housewife, for the purpose to become legally married. He has been described as being tall and thin with the high cheekbones and large Roman nose that many of us have inherited; she has been described as having dark hair and eyes.

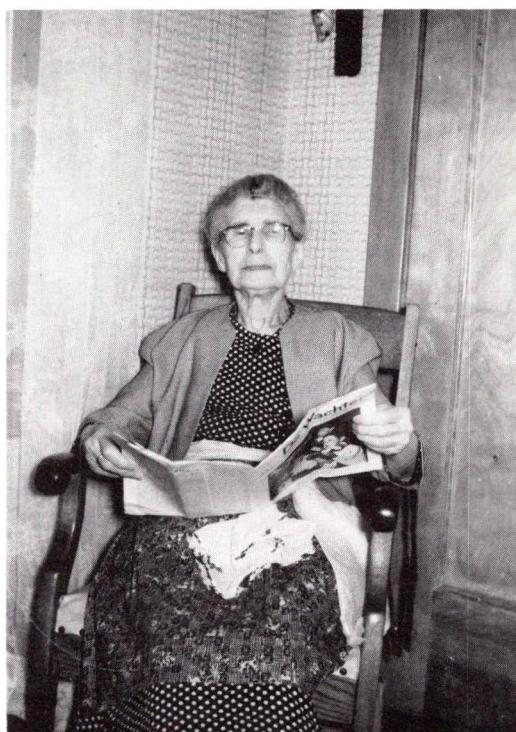
Their home was the second story above the basket factory where they soon began raising their large family. This home on 65 Langeville Straat directly west of the town hall is still standing and in use. An inscription states that it was built in the year 1762 and is presently occupied by a locksmith, A. C. de Vries.

Twelve children were born to this couple:

1. Adriaan Johannes Marinus born July 18, 1871, died during W.W. II, about 1945. Married Piernella Adriana Buys. Adriaan was in a cigar business with his brother, Johannes in the cigar firm, "Goote Brothers," "The Beursklok." They had

several shops in the Netherlands. Children:

- A. Maria Adriana died of TB at age 20.
- B. Johannis Hendrik born April 11, 1898, married Piernella Adriana Le Cointer, born in Middelburg Aug. 18, 1897, died Feb. 14, 1975 in Kroonstad, South Africa. Johannis continues to live in South Africa, where he was in Diplomatic Service for many years and where his five children also live.
- C. Lena Elizabeth born 1902 — she was an assistant chemist.
- D. Adriaan Johannes Marinus — he was a businessman and died in 1975.
- E. Marinus — lives in Bussum and is a retired businessman.
- F. Wilhelmina — she is now about 70 and lives in Amsterdam.
2. Adriana Johanna Francisca born Sept. 12, 1872, married Andries Baljue. They owned a grocery store in Utrecht. They were married twenty years, then had two children:
 - A. Maria Adriana born 1910, three children
 - B. Andries Johannes Baljue born 1911, died June 12, 1964. Married Johanna Koning in 1934, no children.
3. Sara Maria, see part I.



Sara Goote Dam

4. Helena Elisa Geertruida born Nov. 14, 1874 died Dec. 28, 1953, cancer of the bowel. Married Aug. 14, 1898 in New Sharon, Iowa to William Vander Wal, born 1861, died April 1950 of a stroke.

Helena was the first of this family to immigrate, in 1898. Her husband was a brother of her stepmother, Geertje Vander Wal. They lived in Brooklyn, Iowa where they owned a men's clothing store. Their children:

- A. Angelica Jenneke Johanna born Sept. 12, 1899. Married J.D. Eggleston Sept. 20, 1920 who died in 1953. She married R. Spencer Trevethan, June 28, 1959. They live in Mesa, Arizona.
- B. Helena Eliza Gertrude born June 17, 1902, married on Oct. 14, 1924 to Wheeler Lave. They live in Hollywood, Florida. Children:
 - 1. Charles Wheeler born Dec. 24, 1925
 - 2. Richard born Dec. 14, 1927
 - 3. Janet Louise born June 16, 1931
- C. Marie born May 21, 1906, married to Warran J. Pratt. They live in Chicago.
- D. Thursia Roxanna born July 10, 1905. Married to Fred S. Anderson, live in Tucson, Arizona.
- E. Irene born Dec. 26, 1907, married and divorced Frank A. Jordan, lives at Scottsdale, Arizona. One child:
 - 1. Beverly born May 5, 1926, died Oct. 12, 1949
- F. William Steven born Apr. 13, 1914, died Sept. 1, 1941. He died in an automobile accident shortly after graduating from Medical School.
- G. Deborah born May 31, 1915. Married to Don Bedgood, one son Ronald born about 1935. Remarried to Joseph Lovelady and lives in Poway, California.

Helena returned to Holland for a visit in 1907 taking her four small girls with her. The records show that her sisters Rachel and Maria, and a brother Johannes W.F. all immigrated to America in 1907, so we assume that they came back with her.

- 5. Elizabeth Cornelia born Jan. 14, 1876. Married Issac Taazelaar. He had a piano business and they moved to London, England.
- 6. Maria Adriana born Mar. 19, 1877, died Sept. 30, 1947 in Chicago of a stroke.

Maria immigrated to the United States in July 1907. She was a graduate nurse of Grant Hospital in Chicago, where she worked for many years as a nurse. She did not marry, but lived for many years with her cousin, Marie Vander Wal, who was also a nurse. At one time she owned two rooming houses in North Chicago.

- 7. Marinus Johannes born Aug. 28, 1879. Little is known of this brother, except that he was an officer in the Dutch army and lived in the Dutch East Indies, where he died. He did not marry.
- 8. Augusta Henriette born Mar. 4, 1883. She married a Toxepaus who was an evangelist in Groningen.
- 9. Johannes Hubertus born May 13, 1884. Co-owner with brother Adriaan of cigar retail business.
- 10. Johannes Wilhelmus Frederick born Mar. 27, 1887. He immigrated to the United States in July 1907. He went to Colorado for his health where he died young of TB.
- 11. Rachel Cornelia born Dec. 3, 1889, died Mar. 13, 1972. She immigrated to U.S. with Helena in July 1907. She worked as a nurse's aid and married Nathan Foreman. They farmed in the Peoria, Illinois area. Children:
 - A. Helena married to A. D. Colter and lives in Decatur, Illinois.
 - B. Leroy, died at about age thirty of heart disease.
 - C. Rachel, lives in Florida.
 - D. Gerald died of cancer at age 16.
- 12. Cornelis born Jan. 25, 1892, died at sea during W.W. II, was buried in the sea. Cornelis was a sailor in the Dutch Navy. He was never married. Occasionally he stayed at the Seaman's Home in Hoboken, New Jersey.

The mother of this large family died during the influenza epidemic on January 11, 1894. The older girls then managed the household and cared for their younger siblings. On August 29, 1894, the father, Johannes Goote took a new wife, Geertje Vander Wal, born Oct. 5, 1865 in Herwijnen. From Sara herself, we learned that the new stepmother did not fit into this busy household and was not accepted by her stepchildren. And as this couple began raising a new family of their own, the older children began leaving home. Sara went to

work for her uncle, Dominie Cornelis Goote, minister in the Gereformeerde Kerk in Oud Beijerland, in caring for his children. It was here that she met her future husband, Jan Johannes Dam, from the nearby village of Zuid Beijerland.

The records show that seven more children were born to this couple:

1. Arie, born Nov. 22, 1895. He was a lawyer and died aboard a ship at the age of 45 years. He was not married.
2. Jacob, born Mar. 12, 1897, died in 1975. He was a member of a trade union.
3. Geertruida Lissa born Oct. 1898, died in 1954.
4. Elisa Maria born Aug. 5, 1900.

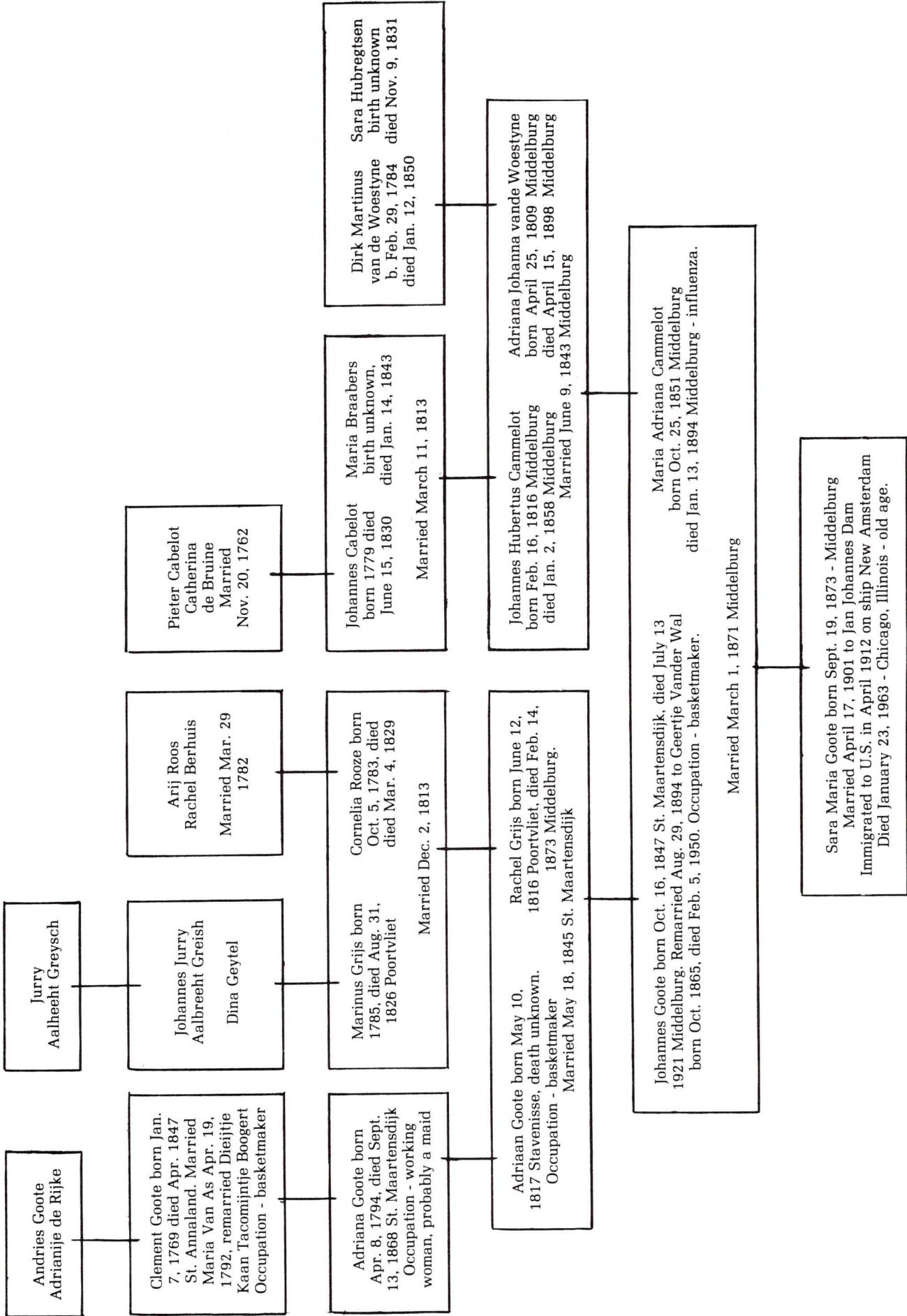
5. Dirk Franciscus born July 16, 1902, married Maria Johanna Van Schuffen. He is a dentist. They lost everything during the bombing in W.W. II when they lived in Arnhem. They now live in Bilthoven. Children: Arie and Alet.
6. Jenneke Wilhelmina, born May 25, 1905, unmarried.
7. Adriana Cornelia born June 1, 1909, unmarried.

Johannes Goote died on July 13, 1921 at Middelburg at the age of 73 years. After her husband's death, Geertje Vander Wal moved with her younger children to the province of Utrecht where she died on Feb. 7, 1950 at the age of 84.

Family Tree is outlined on the following page.

"I would like to sincerely thank my uncles and aunts and others who so patiently and promptly responded to my requests for their family history. I would especially like to thank my own mother Marie, who was my greatest source of information on the family. I am thankful for her fine mind and memory and her willingness to share that knowledge with me and with all of us."

—Sylvia Kempema



Chapter XIV

Johannes Dam, the jolly preacher

17. Johannes born Feb. 8, 1883, died Nov. 6, 1970. Married Aug. 4, 1915 to Neeltje Alida Riemer, born Apr. 24, 1890 died Oct. 12, 1917. They had three children: Gretha, Jan Johannes and Geerling. Remarried May 28, 1920 to Johanna Maria Jongenburger born Sept. 2, 1881; died. Remarried 1960 to Frederieka Tieman, who died two weeks after their marriage.

Johannes Dam had a lifelong ambition to become a minister, but his father had him groomed to take over the family bakery business in Zuid Beijerland. He worked for several years with his father, but not at all to his liking. His older brother Arie, some 24 years his senior, finally persuaded his father to let him go to school for his theological training. In 1915 he became a minister and served with distinction. For many years he served the congregation at Bodegrave which had 1350 members. He retired in 1953. His last sermon was preached in Baarn in 1968 when he was 86 years of age.

Johannes was a stately fellow, well groomed, a charmer with the ladies and a stickler for detail. His grandson, Johannes, was two years old when he was to be baptized. Grandfather was bound and determined that everything would be prim and proper at the baptismal service. He arranged to have a dress rehearsal for the baptism. An hour before the service he took his grandson into the bathroom for a practice drill and told young Johannes to be a good boy in church when grandfather would do it all over again. So the young lad was baptized twice in one morning.



Rev. Johannes Dam

Johannes also had an excellent sense of humor. His daughter, Gretha, writes: "Reminiscences of my father" as follows:

I have precious memories of my father. He was to my brother and I both father and mother as our real mother had died and father's second wife could not play the role of a loving mother. It is indeed remarkable that father could lead such a jolly and happy life in such a good humored way. On occasion he would put an orange under our pillow when we were little or show his motherly affection in some other casual, unexpected way. When my oldest daughter, Nelly, was born and named after my mother, this created great jealousy on the part of my stepmother.

Frequently he would stay overnight with my daughter, Anne Marie, as he was very fond of his grandchildren. When watching T.V. and he noticed a French show being shown, his comment was "What kind of garbage is that?" Anne Marie's answer was "Grandpa, if you don't like it, just look the other way so it won't offend you." He would then pretend to be reading the paper or a book when Anne Marie would notice that he had his eyes constantly on the T.V. show much to her amusement.

Father enjoyed walking, as do most Hollanders, and was known for his rapid pace. Oftentimes people would ask "Dominie, why do you walk so fast?" to which his constant answer was "So I'll get there sooner."

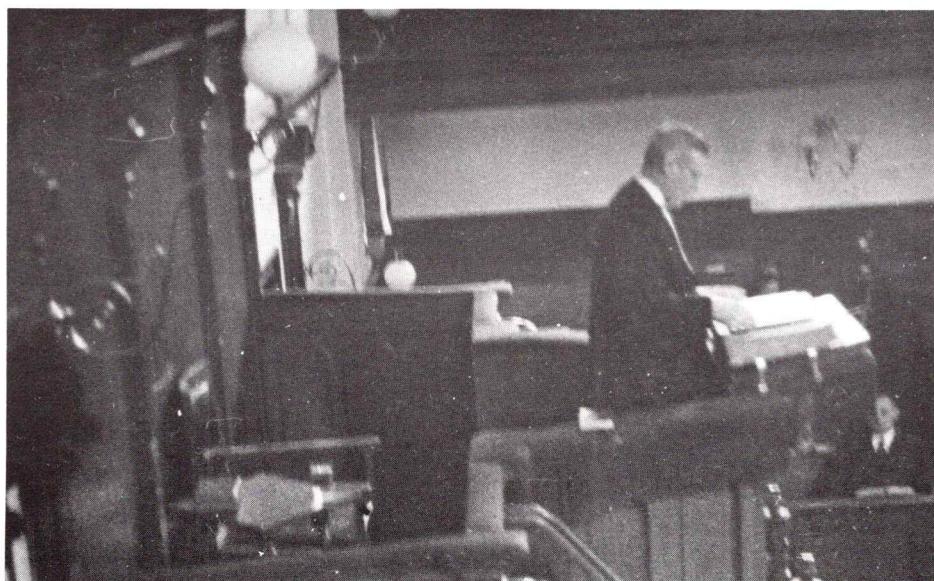
After the death of my stepmother, father became very lonesome. It was a great relief to my brother Jan and myself that his widowed sister "Tante Hill" came to live with him. To Tante Hill this was a prestigious position to live in the parsonage. She being a good talker and very free with words, soon became the pipeline between the parsonage and the public on private affairs which she would tell people sitting on the park bench by the church. Within a few days father dismissed her and asked her to make it on her own.

He was a connoisseur of fine food and all his life kept his eye on the kitchen and at home his admonition was "Good food has first priority, followed by cleanliness, not vice versa." This is perhaps the reason he was such a charmer with the ladies. He was always visiting with them, especially when they went to the kitchen.

When I went with him to the market place and rested on a park bench, he would observe women's legs and talked about their features very freely and I was astounded at his excellent critique. On occasion he would visit about these features and knew with precision which women about town had nice legs.

I am also reminded of the many times we would have coffee together. His custom was to have a drink of genever (gin) after the coffee. On one occasion a parishioner (the milkman) walked into the house. The gin bottle was setting on the table and father with slight of hand had it do the disappearing act and relocated it under the table.

After father retired, he would preach in various churches on different occasions, sometimes to very conservative groups. He would ask me to take him by auto. When his preaching was to a conservative group,



Rev. Johannes Dam in his pulpit at Bodegraven

he would not let me attend the service "Lest the city environment of the Rotterdammer should offend the people of the congregation."

Johannes' wife died after two years of marriage, leaving him with two very small children. In 1920 he remarried to Johanna Jongeburger who then became mistress of the parsonage. After she passed away in the late 1950s, he remarried the third time to a lady from Doesburg who was very charming. This marriage lasted only a few weeks when she died. Johannes then went to live in Baarn and employed a housekeeper. In November, 1970, he had a heart attack and died immediately afterwards. So ended the career of a very illustrious and colorful preacher and the last member of his generation.

A. Gretha born May 20, 1916. Married Johannes C. Westerbrink, born May 22, 1908, died Dec. 3, 1960. They had three daughters:

1. Nelly Riemers born May 17, 1940
2. Johanna Maria Cunnegina born May 5, 1943
3. Marianna born Jan. 21, 1946



Greta Dam
Westerbrink

B. Geerling Riemer born Aug. 31, 1917, died Oct. 24, 1917

C. Jan Johannes born Aug. 31, 1917 — Ree 66 Reeuwyk. Married Johanna Van Staveren born Aug. 25, 1917. They had four children.

Jan was associated with the shipping industry headquartered in Rotterdam. He spent a great deal of his time promoting containerized shipping, both on the Rhine River into the Continent and

along the seacoast to the Scandinavian countries as well as Canada. He is now retired and his son, Johannes, is carrying on the shipping tradition.



Jan Dam Family

Back row: Hiskien, Johannes, Hiskien on Lap, Jahanna, (Ans), Jan Johannes, Yvonne, Jan Herm. Front row: Jan Johannes, Monique, Rens, Margeretha and unidentified friend.

1. Johannes born June 3, 1945. Married Hiskien Muys born May, 1948. They have two children:
 - a. Jan Johannes born May 13, 1974
 - b. Hiskien born Sept. 19, 1977
2. Johanna Maria born Sept. 14, 1947. Lives in Australia. Married Roeland Jan Siezon. They have three sons:
 - a. Mark born 1972
 - b. Sander born 1973
 - c. Bart born 1976



Johanna Marie Dam Family

3. Margaretha born Dec. 6, 1948
4. Yvonne Constance born June 1, 1952. Married Jan Herm Jansen. They have two children: Monique and Rens.

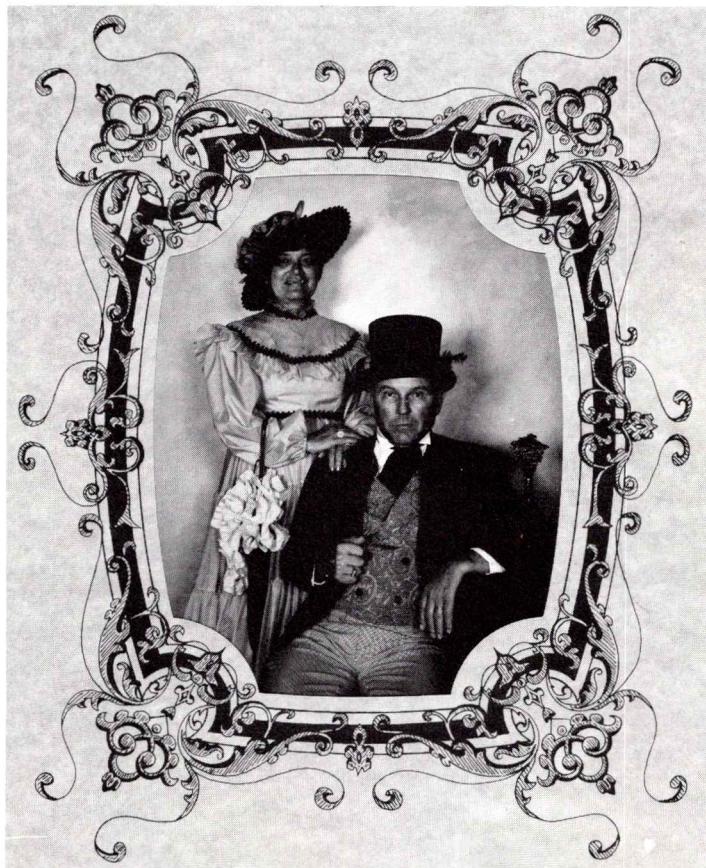
Postscript

Thus we have recorded the research of our family roots. I will continue to gather family tidbits so that they may be preserved for future generations. It is my hope that some of you will carry your own family line and keep it up to date.

As you have read the short resumes of our forebears and perhaps studied their lifestyles, you have noticed that the "mores" and priorities of values change with the times. The method of living changes constantly but the principles of a well-balanced, regulated life stay constant and never change. Solomon records these principles very explicitly in Proverbs and Ecclesiastes. They are the same as those used by Hammerabi of the Ancient Babylonian empire. The later authors of the Old and New Testament emphasize these same principles, even though the methods of living changed. Today, as never before, we must abide by these solid and lasting motivating forces in an ever changing lifestyle. Eternal vigilance is the price of victory.

With this I hope you have had a degree of satisfaction in getting acquainted with the family at large.

J. B. Dahm and his wife Arvena.



The following space is provided for your continuation of your personal recorded family tree lines.

